

erations at Dar es Salaam's port. UN Secretary-General António Guterres called for an impartial investigation into allegations of excessive force, while Tanzania's Foreign Affairs Minister dismissed such claims, attributing the violence to "small pockets of criminal activity." Despite earlier praise for easing state repression, Hassan has recently faced mounting criticism over arrests and alleged abductions of political opponents. Her overwhelming victory, amid questions about voter turnout and fairness, has deepened concerns about Tanzania's democratic trajectory.

QUICK READ

Motorcyclist Seriously Injured After Being Intentionally Hit by Car

Bengaluru

In yet another shocking act of road rage, a motorcyclist was left seriously injured after a car driver allegedly rammed into his two-wheeler following a dispute over giving way on the road in K.R. Puram. The disturbing incident occurred on Saturday and has sparked outrage among local residents. According to police sources, the altercation began when the biker and the car driver argued over right of way on a busy stretch of road. Eyewitnesses said the argument quickly escalated, with the car driver allegedly following the motorcyclist before deliberately knocking him down at high speed.



Pothole Menace in Mahadevapura Sparks Public Outrage

Bengaluru

The persistent problem of potholes in the city's Mahadevapura constituency has become a major public concern, as residents continue to suffer injuries and fatalities caused by poorly maintained roads. A growing number of accidents have been reported recently, many occurring when motorists attempt to swerve and avoid deep potholes, often leading to collisions or loss of control. Tragically, several individuals have lost their lives, while others have sustained life-altering injuries, including fractures and limb amputations.

Ramji Gang Strikes, Filmmaker Loses Crucial Film Footage

Bengaluru

The infamous Ramji Gang, known for its audacious thefts, has resurfaced in the city, creating panic among residents. Their latest target was filmmaker and actor Ravi Gowda, who lost valuable possessions, including crucial film footage, in a shocking daylight robbery in Vijayanagar. According to reports, Gowda, who is also the producer of the upcoming film I Am God, had parked his luxury BMW car on a busy street while stepping out for a brief shopping errand. Seizing the opportunity, members of the Ramji Gang broke the car's window and made off with items of immense personal and professional value.

GUV EXTENDS KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA GREETINGS

Karnataka Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot greeted citizens on Kannada Rajyotsava, emphasizing unity, cultural pride, and collective progress

BENGALURU

Karnataka Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot extended heartfelt greetings to the people of the state on the occasion of Kannada Rajyotsava, celebrating the unification of Karnataka and the rich heritage of the Kannada language and culture.

In his message, Governor Gehlot conveyed warm wishes to all Kannadigas, stating, Hearty greetings to the people of Karnataka on the occasion of Kannada Rajyotsava. This day marks not only the unifi-



cation of our state but also the celebration of our people's vibrant cultural legacy. He paid tribute to the vi-

sionaries and leaders who worked tirelessly for Karnataka's unity and identity, acknowledging their sacrifices in shaping the state's journey toward progress and inclusiveness. I salute the visionaries who fought for the unification and prosperity of Karnataka. Let us all dedicate ourselves to strengthening unity, fraternity, and social harmony, the Governor said in his statement.

Governor Gehlot further called upon citizens to uphold the values of brotherhood and mutual respect while contrib-

uting to the state's continued development. He urged people to draw inspiration from the state's historical struggles and achievements to build a stronger, more prosperous Karnataka.

Kannada Rajyotsava, celebrated annually on November 1, marks the formation of the state in 1956 when all Kannada-speaking regions were unified. The day is observed with patriotic fervor, cultural programs, and tributes to the Kannada language, symbolizing pride and unity among its people.



Karandlaje Slams Mallikarjun Kharge Over RSS Ban Remarks

BENGALURU

Union Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje has criticised Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge for his recent demand to ban the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), claiming that he made the statement under pressure from Sonia Gandhi and Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi.

Speaking to reporters at the BJP headquarters in Bengaluru on Saturday, Karandlaje said she respected Kharge as a senior politician with decades of experience at both state and national levels but asserted that he was no longer thinking independently. In his 50 years of political life, Mallikarjun Kharge had never spoken against the RSS. Now, after listening to Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi, he is demanding a ban. Kharge ji, you must remember — what former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru could not do, what Indira Gandhi could not do — will you be able to do it? she remarked.

Continuing her sharp criticism, Karandlaje questioned

Union Minister Shobha Karandlaje accused Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge of targeting the RSS under pressure from the Gandhi family.

the Congress leadership's authority and intent. What powers do you or Rahul Gandhi possess? He is merely the Leader of the Opposition and is unable to discharge his duties effectively, she said. The Minister further pointed out that the Congress had ruled the nation for over five decades and that Kharge himself had served as a Union Minister during the UPA regime, yet had never previously spoken against the RSS.

Karandlaje's remarks came amid renewed political tensions between the BJP and Congress over the latter's criticism of the RSS. Her comments underscore the BJP's stand that the Congress is attempting to politicize the RSS's role, while the Congress maintains that the organisation wields undue influence over the ruling party's governance.

BMRCL introduced a fifth train on the Yellow Line, improving service frequency and convenience for Bengaluru commuters on Rajyotsava Day.

BMRCL Adds Fifth Train to Namma Metro Yellow Line on Karnataka Rajyotsava

BENGALURU

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) has delivered welcome news to Namma Metro passengers by launching a fifth train service on the Yellow Line from Saturday morning, coinciding with the celebration of Karnataka Rajyotsava. The new service aims to improve connectivity and ease passenger movement on one of the city's busiest routes.

With the introduction of this additional train, Yellow Line services will now operate every 15 minutes, significantly reducing waiting times

for commuters. Previously, only four trains were operational, with intervals of around 19 minutes between each service. The addition of the fifth train marks a substantial improvement in frequency, promising a smoother and faster travel experience for thousands of daily passengers.

BMRCL officials said the expansion was part of their ongoing effort to enhance commuter convenience and operational efficiency across the network. The decision comes at a time when the city is witnessing a surge in metro ridership, particularly during



peak hours. Shorter intervals between trains are expected to ease congestion and provide a more comfortable journey for commuters traveling between key destinations along the Yellow Line.

HDK Slams CM Over Pothole Deadline Remark, Calls It Height of Irresponsibility

BENGALURU

Union Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has strongly criticized Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, calling his recent comment on Bengaluru's pothole issue the height of irresponsibility. His remarks came after Siddaramaiah told reporters to ask Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar when questioned about the failure to meet the pothole-filling deadline.

Speaking to the media after attending the Sapna Book House Book Fair, Kumaraswamy said he was deeply disappointed by the Chief Minister's attitude. I listened to Siddaramaiah's statement. It is completely irresponsible. One wonders whether Siddaramaiah is the Chief Minister or D.K. Shivakumar, he remarked sharply.

He further reminded that it was Siddaramaiah himself who had chaired a meeting



and set the deadline for filling potholes across Bengaluru. Now, the deadline has expired, yet the potholes remain as they were.

This shows how little respect officials have for the Chief Minister's own words, Kumaraswamy added.

Expressing frustration over the state of the roads, the Union Minister said that the Chief Minister's response reflected a lack of administra-



tive control and accountability. By making such statements, it seems as though Siddaramaiah is admitting his inability to function effectively as the Chief Minister, he remarked.

Kumaraswamy concluded that the citizens of Bengaluru continue to suffer daily due to poor road conditions, and that the state government must take immediate responsibility instead of passing the blame.

Man Killed by Co-worker After Quarrel Over Light Switch

BENGALURU

A 41-year-old man was allegedly murdered by his colleague after a heated argument over switching off a light at a rented office in the early hours of Saturday. The incident took place around 1:30 a.m. at the premises of Data Digital Bank, a company engaged in storing movie shooting videos, police said.

The deceased has been identified as Bheemesh Babu, a native of Chitradurga district. According to police reports, Bheemesh and his co-worker, Somala Vamshi (24), a resident of Vijayawada, were on night duty when they got into a dispute about

turning off the light. The quarrel quickly escalated, and in a fit of rage, Vamshi allegedly struck Bheemesh on the forehead with a dumbbell, killing him instantly.

Following the incident, the accused reportedly walked to the Govindraj Nagar police station and surrendered himself. A senior police officer confirmed that a case of murder has been registered against him.

The accused has been taken into custody and further investigation is underway, the officer said.

Police have recovered the murder weapon and are verifying the sequence of events leading to the crime. Prelimi-

nary investigations suggest that both men stayed overnight at the office regularly, as part of their job responsibilities.

The shocking incident has drawn attention to the stressful working conditions faced by night-shift employees. Officials said efforts are being made to contact the victim's family in Chitradurga and arrangements are being made to hand over the body after post-mortem examination.

The Govindraj Nagar police have launched a detailed investigation to determine whether the altercation was spontaneous or linked to prior disputes between the two co-workers.

Illegal 1.5 km Asphalt Road Demolished on Government Land in Yelahanka; FIR Filed Against Encroachers

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Urban District Administration has demolished an unauthorized 1.5-kilometre-long asphalt road constructed on government land in Sonnenahalli village, Yelahanka taluk, and registered a criminal case against the encroachers, according to District Commissioner G. Jagadeesh.

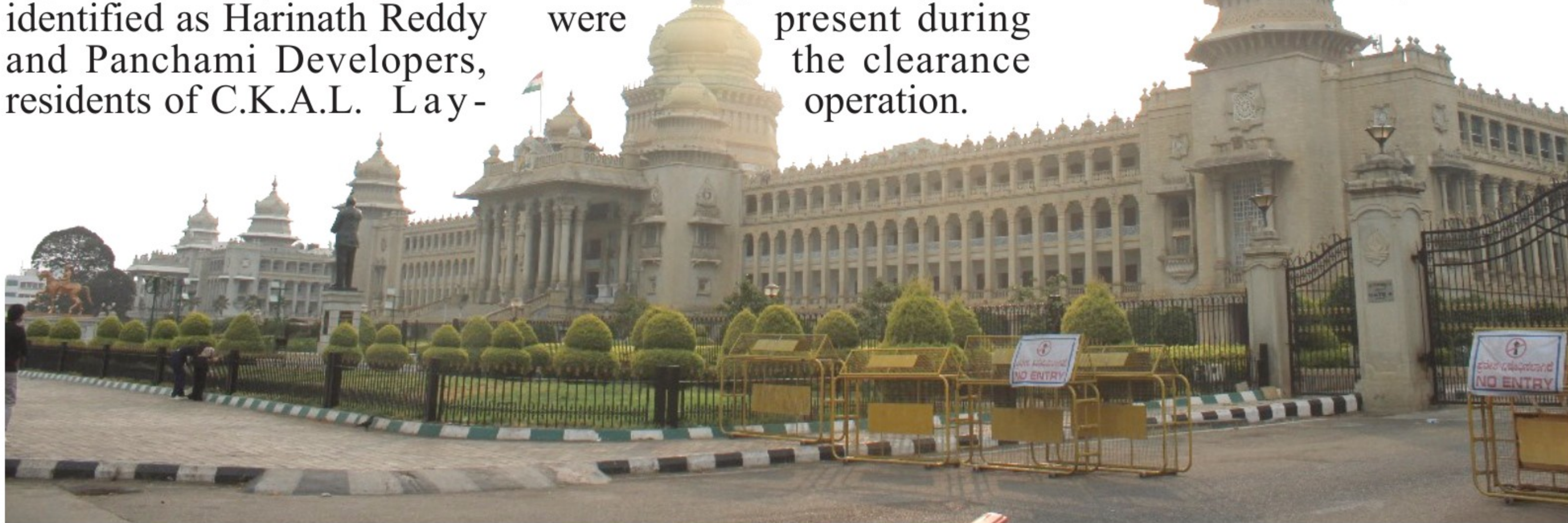
The illegal road, measuring about 60 feet in width, was found on Survey No. 78 of Sonnenahalli village under Hesaraghatta hobli. It was allegedly built by individuals identified as Harinath Reddy and Panchami Developers, residents of C.K.A.L. Lay-

out, Sahakaranagar, Bengaluru. They had also encroached upon government lands in Survey Nos. 76/1, 76/2, 76/3, 76/4, and 77/2, covering around five acres with an estimated value of ₹7.5 crore (at ₹1.5 crore per acre).

Following directions from Rajendra Kumar Kataria, Additional Chief Secretary of the Revenue Department, a joint operation was carried out under the leadership of the Deputy Commissioner G. Jagadeesh. The Yelahanka Tahsildar Shreyas G.S., revenue officials, and Rajanakunte police were present during the clearance operation.

The officials removed the entire stretch of the illegal asphalt road and confirmed that a criminal case has been registered against those responsible for the encroachment and illegal construction.

The district administration reiterated its commitment to protecting public land and taking strict action against violators involved in illegal development activities. Authorities have also warned that similar encroachments elsewhere in the district will be identified and demolished without delay.



Karnataka Celebrates 70th Kannada Rajyotsava with Grand Cultural Showcase

BENGALURU

The 70th Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with great enthusiasm across Karnataka and other parts of the country on Saturday. The main state-level celebration was held at Kanteerava Stadium in Bengaluru under the aegis of the Department of School Education and Literacy.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah formally inaugurated the grand event in the presence of Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and School Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa. The stadium was filled with vibrant colours, traditional music, and a jubilant atmosphere as thousands gathered to celebrate the state's formation and cultural heritage.

This year's Rajyotsava cel-



ebrations saw the participation of 1,700 government school students — a significant increase from the 1,100 who took part last year. Students performed a series of cultural presentations, including folk dances, patriotic songs, and tableaux showc-

ing Karnataka's linguistic and cultural diversity. Two government school troupes received special appreciation for their performances, which added a distinctive flair to the day's festivities.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

praised the students and teachers for their enthusiasm and dedication, emphasizing the importance of preserving and promoting the Kannada language and culture among the younger generation. He also reiterated the government's commitment to improving public education and ensuring that every child in Karnataka has access to quality learning opportunities.

The Kannada Rajyotsava, celebrated annually on November 1, marks the unification of all Kannada-speaking regions into the state of Karnataka in 1956. Across the state, public offices, schools, and cultural institutions organized flag-hoisting ceremonies, folk performances, and community events to commemorate the day with pride and devotion.

QUICK READ



Vehicle Breakdown Near Yelahanka Railway Underpass

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Traffic Police issued a traffic advisory after a vehicle broke down near the Yelahanka Railway Underpass, causing congestion on the stretch leading towards Sante Circle. The incident resulted in slow-moving traffic in the area for several hours. Commuters travelling through Yelahanka experienced delays as traffic flow was disrupted during peak hours. Police officers were deployed on-site to regulate movement and guide vehicles through alternate lanes to ease congestion.

BWSSB Work at Bilekahalli Causes Traffic Slowdown

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru Traffic Police issued an advisory after ongoing BWSSB (Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board) work at Bilekahalli caused traffic congestion on the stretch heading towards JD Mara. The roadwork resulted in slow-moving traffic for several hours during the day. Commuters travelling through Bilekahalli experienced delays as one lane of the road was partially blocked for repair and maintenance activities carried out by the BWSSB. Traffic police personnel were deployed on-site to manage vehicle movement and assist motorists in navigating the congested stretch.

Bengaluru South City Corporation Celebrates Kannada Rajyotsava

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru South City Corporation celebrated the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava with great zeal and patriotic fervour, organizing a special program in collaboration with school students to honour Karnataka's rich heritage and linguistic pride. The event featured Commissioner K.N. Ramesh, Additional Commissioner Rachappa, Joint Commissioner Dr. N.N. Madhu, and several senior officials, who participated in the celebrations alongside students and staff members. The program aimed to instil a sense of cultural identity, love for the Kannada language, and pride in the state's history among the younger generation.

Kannada Pride Should Be Felt Every Day, Not Just in Nov: MLA

MLA S.T. Somashekar urged citizens to celebrate Kannada pride year-round during the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava celebration in Kengeri

BENGALURU

Emphasizing the importance of linguistic and cultural pride, MLA S.T. Somashekar on Saturday said that every individual born in Karnataka should possess deep affection for the Kannada language and culture. He was speaking after hoisting the flag at a grand celebration marking the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava near Saleeh Building on 1st Main Road, Kengeri Satellite Town. Addressing the gathering, Somashekar stated, Kannada pride should not be limited only to the month of November. Every Kannada-speaking person must carry love and respect for the language all

365 days of the year. He also highlighted the remarkable contributions of Kannada poets, writers, artists, and film personalities, noting that although some of them are no longer with us physically, their legacy continues to live on in the hearts of Kannadigas.

Bengaluru West District Congress Committee Vice-President Mohammed Saleh, who also spoke on the occasion, said that efforts should be made to teach Kannada to non-Kannadigas and spread awareness about the richness of the language. While other languages may be necessary for livelihood, we must never forget our mother



tongue. It is our duty to preserve and promote Kannada, he remarked.

As part of the event's social outreach, blankets were distributed to over 100 poor, destitute, and civic workers.

The celebration saw the participation of several dignitaries, including Bandemath Ward President T. Prabhakar,

Greater Bengaluru Authority Commissioner Rajendra Cholan visited the road in front of Town Hall to inspect the ongoing asphaltting work

GBA Commissioner Cholan Inspects Road Asphaltting Work Near Town Hall

BENGALURU

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Commissioner Rajendra Cholan conducted an on-site inspection of the asphaltting work in progress near Town Hall. During his visit, the Commissioner instructed the executive engineers present to maintain strict quality standards and ensure the project's timely completion. The inspection was part of the civic body's broader effort

to upgrade major roads in central Bengaluru, improving traffic flow and commuter safety ahead of the monsoon season. Rajendra Cholan reviewed the thickness of the asphalt layer, material quality, and the ongoing drainage alignment work to ensure long-term durability of the road surface. Speaking to engineers on site, he emphasized that public infrastructure works must meet prescribed quality norms and be

monitored continuously to prevent premature wear and damage. He also reminded contractors of their responsibility to adhere to deadlines without compromising on standards.

The asphaltting project near Town Hall is among several key road improvement initiatives being undertaken by the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) in core areas of the city. Once completed, it is expected to ease traffic congestion and enhance connectivity between key administrative and commercial zones in Bengaluru's central district.

Residents in the area welcomed the Commissioner's proactive inspection, expressing hope that the renewed focus on quality would lead to smoother and more durable roads.

City Police Celebrate Karnataka Rajyotsava with Patriotic Fervour at RSI Grounds

BENGALURU

The Bengaluru City Police marked Karnataka Rajyotsava with great enthusiasm and pride at the RSI Cricket Ground today. The event was led by Commissioner of Police Seemant Kumar Singh, IPS, who was joined by senior police officers and staff to celebrate the state's 70th formation day.

The ceremony commenced with the hoisting of the Karnataka State Flag, followed by the lighting of the ceremonial lamp, symbolizing reverence for Karnataka's rich cultural heritage and linguistic identity. The Commissioner extended warm greetings to all police personnel and citizens, urging everyone to uphold the values of unity, service, and pride in Kannada culture.

The event also featured vibrant cultural performances, including traditional dances



and songs celebrating the state's history and achievements. Police personnel, along with their families, joined in the collective rendition of the Nadageethe — Jaya Bharata Jananiya Tanujate, filling the air with patriotic spirit and emotion.

The Bengaluru City Po-

lice's Rajyotsava celebration served as a reminder of the force's deep connection with the people and culture of Karnataka.

The event concluded with a message of solidarity and commitment to maintaining peace, harmony, and civic pride across the city.

B'luru Gears Up for Makkala Climate Action Sabhe 2025

BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has announced the top 20 finalist Schools and PU Colleges from across the city's five municipal corporations that will take part in the Makkala Climate Action Sabhe 2025, a flagship platform celebrating youth-led environmental action. The announcement marks the official start of the countdown to the event, which will be held on November 7, 2025. The GBA's Climate Action Cell shortlisted the 20 finalists based on their innovative sustainability projects, community engagement, and climate awareness initiatives. These institutions will represent Bengaluru's emerging climate leadership, showcasing the city's commitment to nurturing environmentally conscious youth. The Makkala Climate Action Sabhe aims to empower young citizens to participate actively in shaping local climate policies and sustainable urban planning. The event will provide students with a platform to present



The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has unveiled the top 20 finalist institutions that will represent the city's young climate leaders at the upcoming Makkala Climate Action Sabhe 2025, marking the start of the countdown to November 7

green innovations, share success stories, and collaborate with policymakers, experts, and civil society organizations. A GBA spokesperson highlighted that the initiative reflects Bengaluru's growing emphasis on grassroots climate education and civic participation, ensuring that future generations are prepared to tackle the city's environmental challenges. With the countdown to November 7 underway, anticipation is building among participating schools and colleges as Bengaluru prepares to spotlight its next generation of climate champions.

Bengaluru Police Deliver Lecture to BPAC on Traffic Awareness and Road Safety

BENGALURU

With a focus on traffic discipline and safety regulations, the Bengaluru Traffic Management Centre hosted a lecture for the Bengaluru Political Action Committee (BPAC) to promote smooth traffic movement and road safety awareness. The Bengaluru Traffic Management Centre organized a special awareness session for members of the Bengaluru Political Action Committee (BPAC), emphasizing the importance of traffic discipline, adherence to safety norms, and the collective responsibility in ensuring smooth vehicular movement across the city.

During the lecture, senior officers from the Bengaluru Traffic Police highlighted key aspects of road safety



education, including pedestrian awareness, the dangers of speeding, and the use of helmets and seatbelts. They also discussed traffic management strategies implemented by the city police to reduce congestion and prevent accidents, particularly in high-density urban zones.

The officers urged citizens and civil society groups to play an active role in spreading awareness about traffic rules and responsible driving behaviour.

Kengeri Police Nab Chain Snatchers, Recover Gold and Mobile Phones Worth ₹8 Lakh

BENGALURU

The South West Division Police, Kengeri Station, achieved a significant success by arresting a group of chain snatchers who had been operating in and around the city. The arrests led to the recovery of stolen property worth around ₹8 lakh, including 70 grams of gold jewellery, four mobile phones, and two two-wheelers used in committing the crimes. According to police officials, the accused had been targeting

women in residential areas and isolated streets. Following a series of complaints, the Kengeri Police formed a special team that conducted a detailed investigation, leading to the swift identification and arrest of the culprits. The recovered gold ornaments and other valuables have been seized, and further investigations are underway to determine the involvement of the accused in similar cases across Bengaluru and nearby areas. Senior officers have com-

mended the Kengeri Police for their efficiency, quick response, and commitment in bringing the culprits to justice. The operation highlights the ongoing efforts of Bengaluru City Police to enhance public safety and curb crimes targeting citizens in the southwestern parts of the city. The Kengeri Police have also urged residents to remain vigilant and promptly report any suspicious activities to ensure community safety and prevent such offences in the future.

GBA RAJYOTSAVA CELEBRATION

Greater Bengaluru Authority Marks 70th Kannada Rajyotsava with Flag Hoisting Across Five City Corporations

BENGALURU

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) celebrated the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava with grandeur and pride by organizing flag hoisting ceremonies at the offices of all five city corporations under its jurisdiction. The celebrations reflected the spirit of unity, cultural heritage, and pride associated with Karnataka's formation day. At each city corporation office, officials, staff members,



and local representatives gathered to pay tribute to the Kannada language, culture, and the state's remarkable

journey since its unification in 1956. The GBA Commissioner and senior officers emphasized the importance of pre-

serving Kannada heritage while promoting inclusive urban growth in Bengaluru's expanding metropolitan region.

The celebrations also included cultural programs featuring Kannada songs, folk dances, and speeches highlighting the contributions of Karnataka's great leaders, poets, and reformers.

Employees adorned traditional attire, and the premises were decorated with red and yellow flags, symbolizing

Kannada pride.

Speaking on the occasion, GBA officials urged citizens to uphold Kannada's prominence in administration and daily life, while also fostering harmony among diverse linguistic communities residing in Bengaluru.

The 70th Kannada Rajyotsava celebration by the Greater Bengaluru Authority stood as a vibrant reminder of the city's enduring connection to Karnataka's linguistic and cultural identity.

Asphaltting Work Undertaken on Road in Front of Town Hall

BENGALURU : The Chikkapete Division of the Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC) undertook asphaltting work on the road in front of Town Hall, as part of its ongoing efforts to enhance road infrastructure and improve commuter convenience in the central parts of the city. The project aims to ensure a durable and smooth road surface, addressing long-pending maintenance issues in one of Bengaluru's busiest zones. The area near Town Hall is a key junction connecting several major roads, and the improvement work is expected to ease vehicular movement and reduce traffic congestion. Officials from the Chikkapete Division supervised the activity to ensure that quality standards and technical specifications were met. The asphaltting is being executed under the supervision of engineers and contractors, with a focus on using high-grade materials to enhance road longevity. According to civic authorities, the asphaltting work will also facilitate better drainage during rains, preventing waterlogging and surface damage. Residents and commuters welcomed the initiative, expressing hope that such infrastructure upgrades would be extended.

QUICK READ



Cow brutally injured, public outrage over cruel act

TUMAKURU

A shocking incident of animal cruelty has come to light in Tumakuru, where miscreants allegedly cut off the tail of a stray cow, leaving it severely injured. The heart-breaking sight of the bleeding cow wandering helplessly on the streets of Ashok Nagar moved locals to anger and sorrow. According to residents, the cow's tail was chopped off two or three days ago, and it had since been roaming the area in distress, with blood dripping from its wound. Members of the Bajrang Dal and BJP leaders in Tumakuru rushed to the cow's aid, arranging immediate medical treatment with the help of local veterinary doctors. Strongly condemning the act, they have lodged a formal complaint with the police, urging strict legal action against those responsible. The incident has sparked widespread outrage among citizens, who have demanded that authorities take swift and exemplary measures to prevent such cruelty in the future. The injured cow is currently receiving medical care, while police are investigating the matter based on the complaint filed by the activists and local leaders.



Kanaka Nade-Nudi Utsava on November 4

CHITRADURGA

Chitradurga will host the Kanaka Nade-Nudi Utsava on November 4 at 10:30 a.m. in Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Auditorium, Government Arts College (Autonomous). The event marks the beginning of the "Kanaka-Samskruti-Sanchalana" programme, organized by the Kanakadasa and Tatvapadakara Study Centre. The festival will be inaugurated by the centre's president, K.T. Chikkanna, and presided over by Principal Dr. J. Kariyappa Malige. IQAC Coordinator Prof. Tarini Shubhadayini, Controller of Examinations Prof. B. Suresh, Kanakada Department Head Prof. K. Manjunath, and Administrator Martin Samuel will also attend. Six colleges, including institutions from Chitradurga, Challakere, and Hiriyur, will participate in the celebration.

130 detained as police raid rave party at resort in B'loru outskirts

Bengaluru Rural police busted a rave party at a private resort near Devigere Cross, detaining 130 people, including 35 women, for suspected drug use

RAMANAGARA

A Bengaluru Rural police team raided a rave party being held at a private resort near Devigere Cross on the outskirts of the city early Saturday and detained around 130 individuals, including 35 women. The operation was led by Bengaluru South Superintendent of Police R. Srinivas Gowda following a tip-off that a late-night rave party was underway in neighbouring Ramanagara district.

The raid, conducted around 3 a.m. by Kaggalipura police, uncovered a large gathering of mostly Bengaluru residents. All detainees were taken to the Ramanagara District



Hospital for medical examination to determine whether they had consumed narcotic substances. Preliminary investigations suggest the event was organised through a WhatsApp group, and drug use is suspected. Police sources said the property, allegedly

owned by a person named Suhass Gowda, was being operated illegally as a homestay without proper permission or licence. Media personnel attempting to film the operation were reportedly stopped by the police. Certain materials recovered from the scene

have been sent for forensic analysis, while organisers and property owners are being questioned. Officials stated that further details regarding the suspected drug use and the organisers' involvement will emerge as the investigation progresses.

The raid falls under the jurisdiction of Kaggalipura police station. This incident follows a similar case in May when Bengaluru police busted a "birthday party" at a farmhouse in Kannamangala, detaining 31 people, including IT professionals.

That operation led to the seizure of cocaine, hydro-ganja, hashish, and other narcotics.



DCM has all the qualities to be CM: Minister MC Sudhakar

CHIKKABALLAPUR

Karnataka's Higher Education Minister Dr. M.C. Sudhakar has stated that Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar possesses all the necessary qualities to become the Chief Minister. Responding to reports of a possible political "revolution" in November, he dismissed them as baseless rumours, saying there is no such revolution, only unnecessary speculation. "The Congress high command is currently focused on the Bihar elections. We are all committed to following the decisions taken by the high command, the Chief Minister, and the Deputy Chief Minister," he clarified. Commenting on Shivakumar's prospects, Sudhakar said, "If there's an opportunity for someone to become Chief Minister, who would say no? DK Shivakumar is capable and has the required leadership qualities. Both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar have worked together as a strong team. Whatever decision the high command

Minister M.C. Sudhakar said D.K. Shivakumar is fully qualified to become Karnataka's next Chief Minister, affirming loyalty to the Congress high command's decision

makes, we will stand by it." Taking a lighter tone during his speech, Sudhakar joked about the changing times, saying, "Even newborns today want smartphones. As soon as they get one, they start blinking and playing with it."

Meanwhile, Chikkaballapur MLA Pradeep Eshwar echoed similar sentiments, saying, "We don't know of any revolution in the state. We are fully committed to the decisions of the CM, DCM, and the party high command."

Dr. Sudhakar also expressed hope for inclusion in the upcoming cabinet expansion, saying he would like to serve in some capacity. "I am the only MLA from the Balija community and I aspire to be a minister," he added.

Karnataka is not just land, it is an emotion: Min N.S. Boseraju

MADIKERI

"Karnataka is not merely land; it is the emotion and bond that unite Kannadigas," said Minister for Minor Irrigation, Science and Technology, and Kodagu District In-charge N.S. Boseraju.

He was speaking after hoisting the flag during the grand 70th Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations held at the District Police Parade Ground in Madikeri on Friday.

The minister said, "Karnataka, Kannada, and Karunadu are not just about geography or language—they embody the deep emotions and unity of Kannadigas. Kannada Rajyotsava should be celebrated as a daily festival of pride by every Kannadiga."

He noted with pride that Kannada literature has received the highest number of Jnanpith Awards in India. "Behind today's proud celebration of Kannada Rajyotsava lies the tireless struggle of many great leaders who fought for the unification of our state. Thousands of Kannadigas worked day and night for administrative and emotional unity.

We must remember these great souls with gratitude," he added.

Minister Boseraju also highlighted that under Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's leadership, the government has implemented several developmental programmes in Kodagu district and across Karnataka, giving special importance to the Kannada language and culture.

He urged youth to take pride in Kannada literature, art, and culture, becoming true inheritors of Karnataka's rich heritage.

He further said that, along with the guarantee schemes, the government continues to prioritise basic infrastructure and development across departments. The event featured an impressive parade by the Police, NCC, Home Guards, Scouts and Guides, and Sevadal teams.

School students presented colourful cultural programmes celebrating Karnataka's language and heritage, while tableaux from various departments showcased ongoing developmental initiatives.

The event was presided over by Madikeri MLA Dr. Mantar Gowda and attended by Deputy Commissioner Venkat Raja, Additional DC R. Aishwarya, SP K. Ramarajan, Guarantee Scheme Implementation Committee Chairman Dharmaja Uttappa, people's representatives, and officials from various departments.

Savadi slams MES activists, calls them 'hired protesters'

CHIKKODI

MLA Laxman Savadi strongly criticised Maharashtra Eki-karan Samiti (MES) workers for repeatedly raising demands to merge Belagavi with Maharashtra, calling them "hired agitators" who should now "sit quietly." Speaking at the Karnataka Rajyotsava celebration organised by the taluk administration in Athani, Savadi said, "MES activists live on Karnataka soil and yet keep shouting that Belagavi belongs to Maharashtra. They have no right to make such claims. Belagavi is the land of Kittur Rani Chennamma, who fought the British — it belongs to Karnataka, not Maharashtra." He warned that if Maharashtra leaders continue to make provocative statements, Karnataka too could demand the inclusion of Mumbai, since representatives from this region once served in the Mumbai province. Savadi further urged the state government to ensure that teachers working in government schools admit their children to the same schools and promote Kannada education.

GESCOM chief urges quick response to consumer grievances

KALABURAGI

GESCOM Chairman Praveen Patil Harawal called on company staff to respond promptly to consumer grievances and work collectively to elevate the corporation's performance. He was speaking after hoisting the national flag at the GESCOM head office during the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations organized by the Kavi Pranini and GUVESKAMNI Kannada Associations.

Highlighting Karnataka's proud cultural heritage, he said the land of

Kadambas, Hoysalas, Chalukyas, and Rashtrakutas has nurtured great poets and thinkers like Ranna, Pampa, and Kuvempu. "Ours is a land that spreads the message of peace and love. Speak Kannada, preserve Kannada, and promote Kannada," he urged.

Patil expressed concern that the younger generation is gradually forgetting Kannada and appealed to parents to converse in the language at home to instill pride in their heritage. He also announced plans to establish a health club for GESCOM employees.

70th Kannada Rajyotsava celebrated grandly at Gandhi Van

KOLAR

The 70th Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated with grandeur at Gandhi Van in Kolar on Saturday. The event was jointly organized by the District Administration, Zilla Panchayat, Department of Kannada and Culture, and the Bhuvaneshwari Kannada Sangha. District in-charge and Urban Development Minister B.S. Suresh hoisted the National and Kannada flags, marking the start of the celebrations. He also offered floral tributes to Goddess Bhuvaneshwari, the presiding deity of Karnataka.

Addressing the gathering, Minister Suresh conveyed his Rajyotsava message and honored 18 achievers from various fields with the pres-



tigious District Rajyotsava Award. He also flagged off a vibrant tableau procession depicting Karnataka's rich culture and heritage. The grand procession of Goddess Bhuvaneshwari, led by the elephant from Kadu Siddeshwara Mutt, added a traditional and festive touch to the event.

Several dignitaries were present, including MP M. Mallesh Babu, MLAs Kottanuru Manjunath and M.L. Anil Kumar, MLC Inchar

Govindaraju, City Municipal Council President Lakshmiddevamma, District Commissioner M.R. Ravi, Zilla Panchayat CEO Praveen P. Bagewadi, SP Dr. B. Nikhil, and other senior officials. Representatives from various organizations, such as the Kannada and Culture Department, Journalists' Association, and Bhuvaneshwari Kannada Sangha, also participated, reflecting the unity and pride of Kannada culture.

Auto drivers celebrate Kannada Rajyotsava with flagged procession

KARATAGI

Marking the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava, the Karatagi Auto Drivers' Association organized a vibrant auto rickshaw procession through the town. Autos were decorated with Kannada flags, garlands, and flowers, creating a festive atmosphere.

The rally began at the APMC yard and passed through the main streets up to Marlanahalli village, symbolizing pride and unity for the Kannada language and culture.

Association president Hanumanthappa Uppar said that auto drivers have always played an important role in promoting Kannada and sup-



porting social causes. "We are proud to serve the people with honesty and dedication, regardless of caste or religion. Our love for Kannada is deep, and we are always ready to stand for our language, land, and water," he said.

He added that auto drivers have been part of several Kannada movements and have contributed significantly to their success. The grand

procession, he noted, was a tribute to Karnataka and its rich cultural heritage.

Vice President Yamanur, Honorary President Ashubai, Treasurer Manjunath, and members Shivraj, Vishwa, Santosh, Nagaraj, Bangari, Sharanappa Naganakal, Sharanappa Ramanagar, Mahadev, and Veerabhadrappe were among those who took part in the celebration.

FORT CITY FESTIVITIES

Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations fill city with cultural splendour

CHITRADURGA

Chitradurga city, known as the land of forts, resonated with the spirit of Kannada pride as it marked the 70th Kannada Rajyotsava with grandeur on Saturday. The highlight of the celebration was an impressive procession featuring the image of Goddess Bhuvaneshwari, which captivated the crowd. Among the many tableaux, the Horticulture Department's display depicting beekeeping and honey production stood out — its buzzing bee model and



realistic sound effects drew wide admiration.

Deputy Commissioner T. Venkatesh inaugurated the procession near the

Neelakanteshwara Temple on Holalkere Road by offering floral tributes to Goddess Bhuvaneshwari. The Social Welfare Department's tableau,

showcasing welfare schemes for the underprivileged, won first prize. The Horticulture Department secured second place, while the Regional Transport Department's display on school bus safety and electric vehicles received third prize. KSRTC's tableau celebrated the record-breaking success of the Shakti Scheme, under which over 504.9 crore free bus rides have been availed by women since its launch on June 11, 2023.

The Education Department highlighted the mid-day meal

program in mining-affected regions, while other departments—Women and Child Welfare, Industries and Training, Health, Backward Classes Welfare, and Tourism—showcased various government initiatives. Traditional performances, including Veeragase, Tamate, Dolu, and Lambani dance, added colour to the event.

The vibrant procession passed through major city landmarks before concluding at the Police Parade Ground, attended by several senior district officials.

Minister Rahim Khan urges priority for Kannada usage

BALLARI

At the 70th Karnataka Rajyotsava celebration in Ballari, Urban Development and Haj Minister Rahim Khan emphasized that Kannada should reflect in every aspect of life. He said preserving and promoting Kannada is not just the government's duty but also requires public participation.

Stressing the importance of using the mother tongue, he noted that countries like China and Japan have progressed through their native languages. Khan recalled that in 1956 and re-naming Rajyotsava a day to honor achievers and language warriors. The event featured tableaux, cultural performances, award ceremonies, and tributes to achievers across literature, education, art, medicine, and journalism, celebrating the state's rich linguistic and cultural legacy.

He also expressed the importance of using the mother tongue, he noted that countries like China and Japan have progressed through their native languages. Khan recalled that in 1956 and re-naming Rajyotsava a day to honor achievers and language warriors. The event featured tableaux, cultural performances, award ceremonies, and tributes to achievers across literature, education, art, medicine, and journalism, celebrating the state's rich linguistic and cultural legacy.



QUICK READ



Sabarimala temple case: SIT makes third arrest

Pathanamthitta
The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the missing gold from Sabarimala temple has arrested former executive officer Sudheesh Kumar. Officials said Kumar, who served at the shrine in 2019, falsely recorded gold-plated Dwarapalaka idols as copper sheets, helping others remove the gold plating. He is the third person arrested after Unnikrishnan Potty and B Murari Babu. The SIT also questioned Vasudevan, Potty's aide, and seized gold-plated parts from a relative's house in Thiruvananthapuram.



Gogoi says Himanta 'unfit' to be CM

Guwahati
Assam Congress chief Gaurav Gogoi on Saturday said Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma is "unfit" to lead the state after Sarma called him a "Pakistani agent" linked to foreign powers. Gogoi said the CM's remarks, made on the day singer Zubeen Garg's last film *Roi Roi* Binala released, showed his desperation and fear of losing power. Sarma had earlier claimed Gogoi's British wife proved foreign connections, a charge the Congress leader dismissed as baseless and politically motivated.

Modi hails Ch'grah's progress from naxal hub to growth model

PM inaugurated Ch'grah's new Assembly building describing it as a pilgrimage site

RAIPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said Chhattisgarh's 25-year journey has transformed it from a region once known for Naxal violence and backwardness into a model of prosperity, security, and stability. Speaking after inaugurating the new legislative assembly building in Nava Raipur Atal Nagar, he said the Assembly must serve as a centre for public service and development, guiding the state's future.

PM Modi urged lawmakers to make laws that simplify citizens' lives and reduce unnecessary government interference, emphasizing the principle of "Nagrik Devo Bhava" (Citizen is God). He said Chhattisgarh's progress reflects the hard work of its people and the vision of past BJP governments.

Highlighting India's success in tackling terrorism and extremism, the Prime Minister said the state is now mov-



ing towards being free from Maoist violence. He noted that development and happiness have reached previously affected areas.

Modi also linked Chhattisgarh's progress to India's broader democratic and developmental journey, citing the sacred Sengol as a symbol of the nation's democratic heritage. He said India is advancing by preserving its tra-

ditions while embracing progress.

Marking Chhattisgarh's foundation day, Modi expressed confidence that by 2047, when India celebrates 100 years of independence, the state will play a key role in building a developed India. Earlier, he unveiled a statue of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on the new Assembly premises.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said India has always acted as a "first responder" during any global crisis, extending timely help as a reliable partner. Speaking after inaugurating the Shanti Shikhar Centre of Brahma Kumaris in Nava Raipur, he said the government's focus is on national progress through the development of states. Emphasising India's spiritual values, Modi said the country believes in the welfare of all beings. He also highlighted Chhattisgarh's 25th foundation day and inaugurated projects worth ₹14,260 crore, including the new assembly building and a statue of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

TMC claims deported Sonali parents name in 2002 SIR list

KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Saturday claimed that the parents of deported woman Sonali Bibi were listed as Indian citizens in the 2002 electoral rolls of West Bengal's Birbhum district. The party alleged that her deportation reflected "bureaucratic cruelty" and "political manipulation."

Sonali Bibi, reportedly pregnant, was deported to Bangladesh along with her family after being labelled as an illegal immigrant.

The Calcutta High Court had on September 26 set aside the Centre's deportation order, directing officials to bring the family back within a month. However, the Union government has challenged this verdict in the Supreme Court.

The TMC accused the BJP of using the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls to spread fear and question the citizenship of Bengal's residents. "To

Trinamool alleges pregnant woman's deportation was politically motivated, citing her parents' names in 2002 voter rolls as proof of Indian citizenship

brand an expectant mother as an infiltrator when her parents are documented Indian citizens is a moral collapse," the party said on social media.

The Election Commission is conducting the SIR in 12 states, including West Bengal. While the BJP maintains it is a routine voter list update, the TMC has called it "an assault on the idea of Bengal."

The TMC further claimed that deporting a pregnant woman violated "constitutional ethics" and showed "disrespect for Bengal and its people." A contempt plea has also been filed in the Calcutta High Court, alleging non-compliance with its earlier order to bring the family back.

MP Khandelwal urges Centre to rename Delhi as 'Indraprastha'

NEW DELHI

BJP MP Praveen Khandelwal has written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah, urging the Central government to rename Delhi as "Indraprastha" to revive its ancient identity and cultural heritage.

In his letter, Khandelwal said Delhi has always been one of the most significant ancient centres of Indian civilisation. He described Indraprastha as a timeless symbol of India's spirit, representing ideals of righteous governance, harmony, and welfare. He added that Delhi is not just a modern city but a living symbol of Indian culture, tracing its roots back to the Mahabharata period when the Pandavas established their



capital.

The Chandni Chowk MP appealed to the government to seriously consider this proposal to help the national capital regain its ancient glory.

Khandelwal also proposed renaming key landmarks — the Old Delhi railway station

as "Indraprastha Railway Station" and the Indira Gandhi International Airport as "Indraprastha Airport." He further suggested installing statues of the Pandavas at important locations across the city.

He pointed out that cities like Prayagraj, Ayodhya, Ujjain, and Varanasi have already reclaimed their historic names, and Delhi too should restore its original identity.

Renaming the capital, he said, would mark a major step in reviving India's cultural heritage and enhance respect for its civilisational past. It would also boost national pride, encourage cultural tourism, and inspire the younger generation to reconnect with the nation's glorious traditions.

CCPA fines two IAS institutes for false ads, misuse of toppers' photos

CCPA fines 2 IAS coaching institutes for misleading ads

NEW DELHI

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has imposed penalties of ₹8 lakh each on Dikshant IAS and Abhimanu IAS for publishing misleading advertisements, unfair trade practices, and violating consumer rights under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

The action followed complaints from UPSC toppers whose photos and names were used without consent. Mini Shukla (AIR 96, UPSC 2021) reported that Dikshant IAS falsely featured

her in ads claiming "200+ results" without revealing her limited association with a mock interview jointly held with another academy. The CCPA found that the institute could produce only 116 enrolment forms and deliberately



concealed crucial details to exaggerate its success rate.

In Abhimanu IAS's case, Natasha Goyal (AIR 175, UPSC 2022) complained that her photo and name were used without authorisation. The institute had shared a mock interview question bank

but never conducted the session. It falsely claimed "2200+ selections since inception" and "10+ selections in IAS Top 10," though most top results were from 2001–2012. The CCPA found these omissions misleading to aspirants.

The CCPA said misleading advertisements distort facts, exploit trust, and harm consumers, especially in education where aspirants invest time and money. Headed by Chief Commissioner Nidhi Khare, the authority has so far issued 57 notices to coaching centres and imposed fines of ₹98.6 lakh on 27 institutes for false claims.



Guru Charan Yatra reaches Patna; Puri, Guv join rituals

PATNA

The nine-day Guru Charan Yatra carrying the sacred relics of Dasam Pita Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj and Khalsa Mata Sahib Kaur Ji reached Patna Sahib on Saturday, marking an emotional and spiritual moment for devotees. The yatra had travelled through Delhi, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh before arriving in Bihar.

Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardip Singh Puri and Bihar Governor Arif Mohammad Khan received the relics with deep reverence at Gurdwara Guru Ka Bagh Sahib in Patna Sahib. The arrival was marked by a grand religious procession led by the Panj Pyaras, symbolising devotion, equality, and sacrifice.

Puri, accompanied by his family, garlanded the Panj Pyaras and participated in the rituals. Sharing his sentiments on social media, he wrote, "Joined the Sangat in receiv-

ing the holy Guru Charan Yatra carrying the sacred Jore Sahib 'Charan Suhawa' of Dasam Pita Sri Guru Gobind Singh Ji Maharaj and Khalsa Mata Sahib Kaur Ji."

Governor Khan, addressing the congregation, described it as a moment of spiritual unity and harmony that brought together people from different faiths. He posted on X, calling it "an overwhelming and emotional moment" for his family to join the Sikh Sangat and perform seva at Takhat Sri Harimandir Ji Patna Sahib, the birthplace of Guru Gobind Singh Ji.

Puri reflected on his family's deep historical connection with the relics, saying that his ancestors were once in the seva of Guru Maharaj and were entrusted with the Charan Suhawa over 300 years ago. The relics were formally handed to the Sikh management committees in Delhi on October 22 before beginning the sacred nine-day journey to Patna Sahib.

Revanth Reddy slams BRS-BJP bond, stalling devpts in State

HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Friday accused the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of having a "secret bond" that is blocking the development of the state.

Speaking at an election rally in support of Congress candidate V Naveen Yadav for the upcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly bypoll, Reddy alleged that BRS chief K Chandrasekhar Rao and Union Minister G Kishan Reddy were spreading false claims and creating hurdles for Telangana's progress.

He said that BJP leaders were stalling key projects, including the Hyderabad Metro Rail expansion and the Musi River rejuvenation plan. "The BJP's win in eight Lok Sabha seats last year shows their hidden ties with the BRS. What have the

Union Ministers Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar done for Telangana? Did they bring any funds from Delhi?" he asked.

Reddy said the Congress government had already launched development projects worth ₹4,000 crore in Secunderabad Cantonment after winning the re-

cent bypoll there. He urged Jubilee Hills voters to choose

development over sentiment and elect Naveen Yadav.

The Chief Minister also criticised BRS working president K T Rama Rao, saying he ignored Jubilee Hills during his decade-long tenure as Municipal Administration Minister. He further questioned the BJP's objection to the appointment of former cricketer Mohammed Azharuddin as a minister, asking why it caused discomfort to them.

Reddy promised to take responsibility for developing Jubilee Hills with support from Azharuddin and Naveen Yadav after the bypoll.

The by-election for the Jubilee Hills Assembly seat will be held on November 11, with counting on November 14. It was necessitated by the death of BRS MLA Maganti Gopinath in June.



RAILWAYS RULES UPDATE

Railways eases rules for lower berth booking

NEW DELHI

The Indian Railways has introduced new rules to make booking lower berths easier and more passenger-friendly. The move aims to help senior citizens, pregnant women, and people with disabilities, who often face difficulties getting lower berths.

Under the revised system, lower berths will be automatically allotted to female passengers above 45 years, senior citizens, and specially-abled travellers based on

availability. Ticket-checking staff can also reassign vacant lower berths to eligible passengers if they are initially given middle or upper berths.

The Railways has also modified rules for sleeping arrangements. Passengers can use their berths for sleeping only between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am.

During the rest of the day, berths are to be shared for seating. For Reservation against Cancellation (RAC) passengers, the side-lower berth will be shared with the

side-upper passenger during daytime travel.

However, between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am, the lower berth is reserved only for its allotted passenger.

Additionally, Railways' new RailOne app now enables users to check services, book seats, and track journeys easily. The provision for opting for a lower berth while booking will depend strictly on its availability.

Officials said the updated rules are designed to create a more comfortable and in-



clusive experience for travellers, ensuring fairness and convenience in seat allocation. The Indian Railways

hopes these changes will simplify the booking process and improve travel comfort for all passengers.

QUICK READ



Delhi police reunite 75 missing people

New Delhi

Under its special drive Operation Milap, the Delhi Police reunited 75 missing people, including 28 children, with their families in October, officials said on Saturday. Police teams traced 47 adults and 28 children reported missing between October 1 and 31. They checked CCTV footage, circulated photos at public places, and conducted door-to-door searches. Local informers also helped in tracing them. Officials said that from January to October, 1,114 missing people, including 366 children, were found.

TMC lodges complaint against Suwendu Adhikari

Kolkata

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) has lodged a complaint with the Chief Electoral Officer of West Bengal, accusing Leader of Opposition Suwendu Adhikari of threatening Booth Level Officers (BLOs). In a letter, senior TMC leader Aroop Biswas alleged that Adhikari warned BLOs of jail if they ignored his directions. Calling it criminal intimidation, the TMC urged police action and protection for election staff. The party also asked the Election Commission to warn political parties against intimidating officials.

Gujarat CM orders relief for farmers hit by unseasonal rains

Gujarat Chief Minister Patel has directed swift relief for farmers affected by unseasonal rains and unveiled a ₹15-crore rural development project

GANDHINAGAR

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has expressed serious concern over the damage caused to standing crops due to unexpected rains and shifting weather patterns across the state. He directed officials to provide full support and timely relief to affected farmers.

The state has faced its most severe unseasonal rainfall in over two decades, leading to widespread crop destruction. In view of this, the government has reaffirmed its commitment to stand by farmers and offer complete assistance.

To address the crisis, the Chief Minister chaired a



high-level meeting in Gandhinagar to review the damage. Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi and Agriculture Minister Jitu Vaghani joined the meeting via video conference, presenting reports on crop loss in different districts.

Senior officials, including Chief Secretary M.K. Das and other departmental heads, were present. Patel instructed them to carry out rapid surveys and damage assessments to ensure prompt compensation.

Meanwhile, the Gujarat Government announced a new project to promote sustainable rural development. Under the “Anant Anadi Vadnagar” initiative, the state will develop India’s first Vrindavan Gauchar Park in Vadnagar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s birthplace.

The ₹15-crore project aims to combine heritage, tourism, and innovation while solving stray cattle issues.

Located near Gaurikund in the Amarthol area, it will serve as a model of cow-based rural progress. The Gujarat Urban Development Company (GUDC) will be the nodal agency coordinating the work.



India dispatches consignment of ARV drug to Fiji

NEW DELHI

India on Saturday sent a consignment of Anti-Retro Viral (ARV) drugs to Fiji to support the island nation’s public health programme, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced.

In a post on X, the MEA said the move underlines New Delhi’s commitment to deepening health partnerships with the Global South. “India remains committed to supporting Fiji in its public health response and humanitarian needs,” the ministry said.

This initiative reflects India’s growing reputation as a reliable development and humanitarian partner in the Indo-Pacific region. Over the years, India and Fiji have built strong historical and cultural ties that now extend to key areas such as healthcare, education, renewable energy, and skill development.

During the visit of Fijian Prime Minister Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka earlier this year, both nations signed multiple agreements, including

India has dispatched a consignment of Anti-Retro Viral (ARV) drugs to Fiji, reaffirming its commitment to health cooperation and humanitarian support for the island nation

one for designing, constructing, and operating a super-specialty hospital in Fiji. The hospital will improve access to advanced healthcare services for Fijian citizens and foster medical cooperation between the two nations.

HLL Lifecare Limited, a public sector enterprise from India, has partnered with Fiji’s Ministry of Health to supply affordable medicines under the Janaushadhi Scheme. The two sides have also collaborated on standardisation, digital education, and skill-building projects. These efforts mark another step in India’s mission to promote inclusive growth and health security across the Pacific.

A Mauritian man’s emotional search for his ancestral roots ends successfully

“I’m taking soil with me,” Mauritian man finds his ancestral roots in Odisha

JAIPUR

A deep desire to trace his roots brought Mauritian citizen Ramrup Jagannath to a small village in Odisha’s Jajpur district. After three unsuccessful visits, his fourth attempt proved fruitful when he finally discovered his ancestral home with help from the district administration and his faith in Lord Jagannath.

Overcome with emotion, Ramrup collected soil from the village to take back to Mauritius, calling it a symbol of his connection to India. “Today was special for me. I’m taking the soil with me,” he said.



Ramrup’s ancestors were taken to Mauritius in 1870 by the British as indentured labourers, known as “Girmityas.” Historical records revealed their place of origin as Mulgaon in Jajpur district, part of undivided Cuttack.

Despite finding his ancestral village, Ramrup expressed sadness that his family no longer lives there. “I

have found the village, but my family has left it,” he said. Still, he remains hopeful that, with administrative support, he will one day reconnect with his long-lost relatives.

Ramrup also appealed to the Indian government to help build a Jagannath Temple in Mauritius for the 3,000-strong Indian-origin community there. “We want to build a Jagannath Temple. I request the government to help us,” he said.

Jajpur District Collector Ambar Kumar Kar assured him of full support and invited him to return to Odisha whenever he wished to continue his search.

Dhinakaran slams AIADMK over expulsion

MADURAI

Amma Makkal Munnetra Kazhagam general secretary T T V Dhinakaran on Saturday criticised the AIADMK for expelling senior leader K A Sengottaiyan, calling it an unfair move. He said AIADMK chief Edappadi K Palaniswami had no right to remove Sengottaiyan and warned that the party would face a political setback in the 2026 Assembly election. Sengottaiyan was expelled after meeting O Panneerselvam, Sasikala, and Dhinakaran, expressing support for their return to AIADMK.

Youth die while shooting reel near railway track in Buldhana

BULDHANA

A tragic incident in Maharashtra’s Buldhana district has claimed the life of a 20-year-old man who was recording a social media reel near a railway track. The youth, identified as Sheikh Nadeem Sheikh Rafiq from Pimpalgaon Raja in Khargaon taluk, died instantly after being hit by a speeding train. His companion, 27-year-old Shakir Sheikh, sustained serious injuries.

The incident took place on October 30 around 3:30 pm near Alsana on a railway

bridge. According to eyewitnesses, Nadeem and Shakir were on their way to a wedding when they stopped to click selfies and shoot a reel. Wearing headphones and listening to music, they failed to hear the approaching train. Nadeem, who was standing close to the track, was struck with full force and thrown several metres away, leading to his instant death. Shakir was rushed to a nearby hospital for treatment.

Locals said the duo seemed cheerful before tragedy struck, unaware of the danger as they tried to capture the

perfect video. The horrifying accident, caught on camera, has since gone viral on social media.

Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel and police quickly reached the spot, cleared the crowd, and began an investigation into the incident. The heartbreaking event has once again raised serious concerns about the growing craze among youth for making risky social media videos. Authorities have urged people to avoid such dangerous activities near railway tracks, stressing that no online popularity is worth risking one’s life.

CM Mann distributes 858 appointment letters to recruits

NEW DELHI

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Saturday handed over appointment letters to 858 newly recruited individuals across various state government departments, reaffirming his government’s commitment to transparent and merit-based employment.

Among the recruits are 73 Medical Officers and 50 Female Health Workers who have officially joined the Punjab Government workforce. Addressing the recruits, Mann congratulated them and their families, noting that since March 16, 2022, his government has provided 56,856 government jobs through a fair and corruption-free recruitment process.

He said the state’s recruitment drive involves no lobbying, recommendations, or bribery, restoring confidence among Punjab’s youth and re-

ducing the trend of brain drain. “Punjab’s youth are capable and deserving — all they ever needed was a fair chance,” Mann stated.

The Chief Minister praised the Health Department and Cabinet Minister Dr. Balbir Singh for their efforts in improving healthcare services. He also highlighted the success of the ‘School of Eminence’ initiative, under which students from government schools are now performing well in national-level exams like JEE and NEET.

Earlier, Mann and AAP convenor Arvind Kejriwal attended the ‘Kisan Maha-Panchayat’ in Sudamada, Gujarat, where Mann criticized the central government for neglecting farmers and delaying compensation for crop losses in Punjab. He asserted that AAP would continue to stand with farmers across India against injustice and work to ensure their voices are heard.



AIADMK expulsion of Sengottaiyan final, says Palaniswami

SALEM

AIADMK general secretary Edappadi K. Palaniswami on Saturday said the expulsion of senior leader K.A. Sengottaiyan was a unanimous and irreversible decision by the party’s general council. He stated that Sengottaiyan had been working against the party’s interests for the past six months, effectively acting as the “B team” of the ruling DMK.

Palaniswami cited several instances of disloyalty, including Sengottaiyan’s boycott of a felicitation event for the Athikadavu-Avinashi project, which was initiated during his tenure as Chief Minister. “He skipped the event citing the absence of MGR and Jayalalithaa’s por-

traits but later attended a DMK function displaying Karunanidhi and Stalin’s photos,” Palaniswami said, calling it proof of his shifting allegiance.

The project, benefiting Erode district, was completed and inaugurated by the DMK in 2024. Palaniswami also produced a photograph of Sengottaiyan attending a DMK event to justify the expulsion. The nine-time MLA from Gobichettipalayam was ousted on October 31 after appearing at a public event with expelled leaders O. Panneerselvam, V.K. Sasikala, and T.T.V. Dhinakaran. “He behaved like a local chieftain. His removal has been welcomed by cadre,” Palaniswami said.

HM slams ‘Mahathugbandhan’ for internal chaos

SAMASTIPUR

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday launched a strong attack on the opposition alliance, “Mahathugbandhan,” saying it is plagued by chaos and infighting, with its leaders battling each other instead of facing the National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Unable to reach Samastipur due to bad weather, Shah addressed the public virtually from Ujiarpur. “I apologise for not being able to come in person as the helicopter could not fly due to inclement weather,” he said while interacting with voters online.

Calling for public support

ahead of the Bihar Assembly polls, Shah urged voters to compare 15 years of “jungle raj” under the opposition with 20 years of development under the NDA government. “You have to decide on November 6 whether Bihar’s governance will return to the hands that spread disorder or stay with the NDA, which ensured growth and peace,” he said.

He praised Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for working together for Bihar’s progress. Comparing NDA’s five parties to the “five Pandavas,” Shah said they are united and

determined to serve the people. “The Mahathugbandhan is filled with internal fights;

they are contesting against each other instead of the NDA,” he added. The NDA includes BJP, JD(U), LJP (Ram Vilas), HAM(S), and Rashtriya Lok Morcha. The Mahagathbandhan, led by the RJD, includes Congress, CPI, CPI(M), CPI(ML), and VIP. Elections for Bihar’s 243 Assembly seats will be held on November 6 and 11, with results declared on November 14.



‘Nitish Kumar is aware that he will not become CM’

JAIPUR

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister and senior Congress leader Ashok Gehlot on Saturday launched a sharp attack on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, saying that he “knows he will not become Chief Minister this time.”

After the release of the NDA’s election manifesto, Gehlot said Nitish Kumar appeared disinterested and avoided making any major promises to the public. “Nitish Kumar is aware that he will not become the Chief Minister this time, which is why he is not making any commitments. The new Chief Minister will be decided after the election,” Gehlot said.

He further alleged that Kumar was “insulted by the

BJP” during the NDA manifesto press conference. Expressing confidence in the opposition alliance, he added, “The Mahagathbandhan is set to form the government in Bihar this time.”

Meanwhile, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, addressing a virtual rally due to bad weather, urged the people of Bihar to support the NDA for continued development. He highlighted the achievements of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar’s government and promised further support for farmers and women through welfare schemes.

Shah assured that all defunct sugar mills in Bihar would be revived within five years, while also emphasizing increases in the Minimum Support Price for paddy.

Priyanka accuses NDA of divisive, fake nationalism

BEGUSARAI

Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday accused the NDA governments at the Centre and in Bihar of indulging in divisive politics and promoting “fake nationalism” to win elections.

Addressing her first poll rally in Begusarai for the ongoing Bihar assembly elections, Priyanka alleged that the so-called “double-engine government” was merely a

myth, as “everything in Bihar is being controlled from Delhi.”

She criticised the BJP over the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state, claiming that deleting names from voter lists amounts to a violation of citizens’ rights. “They first divided people, went to war, but couldn’t divert attention from real issues, so now they are stealing votes,” she alleged.

The Congress leader further



accused the BJP of ignoring core issues such as unemployment and migration while instead resorting to personal attacks on past leaders. “They criticise Nehru ji and Indira ji, but fail to address the problems faced by the youth,” she said.

Highlighting Bihar’s role in India’s progress, Priyanka said the state had not received the development it deserved under NDA rule. “Bihar contributed greatly to the coun-

try’s growth, yet its people are denied opportunities. Don’t get fooled by the government’s tall promises,” she told the gathering.

She also accused the Modi government of favouring corporates through rampant privatisation. “The Prime Minister handed over big public sector units to his corporate friends,” Priyanka alleged, urging voters to “save democracy and stand united against divisive politics.”

QUICK READ

Republicans push back against Trump's call to end Senate filibuster

Washington
President Donald Trump has thrown himself into the ongoing debate over the United States government shutdown, calling on the Senate to scrap the filibuster and reopen the government. But that idea was swiftly rejected by Republican leaders who have long opposed such a move. The filibuster refers to a Senate rule that requires 60 votes to overcome objections. Currently, that rule gives the minority Democrats a check on Republican power in the Senate. In the chamber that's currently split 53 to 47, Democrats have had enough votes to keep the government closed while they demand an extension of healthcare subsidies.

American Hindu group asks VP Vance to engage with Hinduism

New York
An American Hindu organisation asked Vice President J D Vance to engage with Hinduism after he said that his wife, Usha, encouraged him to re-engage with his faith. Vance is facing criticism over his comments regarding his interfaith marriage after saying he eventually hopes that Usha, who grew up in a Hindu household, is somehow moved by the same thing that I was moved in by church. Hitting back at his critics, Vance said it was his wife who encouraged him to re-engage with Christianity.

Lanka's oppn lawmakers demand personal protection

Colombo
Sri Lanka's opposition lawmakers urged the country's police chief to provide personal protection to all elected representatives of the people at different elected bodies. The opposition members of parliament requested the Speaker to summon the police chief Priyantha Weerasuriya to the house to discuss the issue. It is the duty of the government to protect the people's representatives, Ranjith Madduma Bandara, legislator of the main opposition Samagi Jana Balawegaya (SJB), said.

Germany, Jordan and UK call for immediate ceasefire in Sudan war

Foreign ministers of these countries warned of catastrophic violence after paramilitary forces seized Darfur's last city; term it humanitarian catastrophe

KHARTOUM

In a joint statement issued on Saturday (November 1, 2025), the foreign ministers of Germany, Jordan, and the United Kingdom called for an immediate ceasefire in Sudan, describing the unfolding crisis as a humanitarian catastrophe.

The appeal came after the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) captured el-Fasher, the last major city in Sudan's Darfur region, sparking widespread concern over escalating violence.

According to United Nations officials, RSF fighters have allegedly carried out large-scale atrocities in el-Fasher, including the killing of over 450 people inside



a hospital, ethnically targeted executions, and incidents of sexual violence. Witness accounts, satellite imagery, and videos circulating on social media appear to corroborate the reports, painting a grim picture of mass killings and destruction. The RSF, however,

has denied involvement in the hospital massacre.

The three ministers stressed that continued fighting would deepen the suffering of civilians and worsen an already dire humanitarian situation. They urged all parties to respect international law, protect

civilians, and allow unhindered access to humanitarian aid. The ministers also called on the international community to unite in pushing for peace and accountability in Sudan.

The conflict, which began in April 2023 between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the RSF, has displaced millions and led to one of the world's worst humanitarian crises. El-Fasher's fall to the RSF marks a critical turning point in the conflict, raising fears of further ethnic cleansing and instability across Darfur. International observers have warned that without immediate intervention, the violence in Sudan could spiral into a full-scale regional disaster.



18 TTP militants held in Punjab as CTD foils major terror plots

LAHORE

The Counter Terrorism Department (CTD) of the Punjab Police announced on Saturday that it has arrested 18 militants, most of whom are associated with the banned Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), during a series of intelligence-based operations across the province.

The operations, conducted over the past month in coordination with an intelligence agency, successfully thwarted major terror plots aimed at key government buildings and installations in multiple cities.

According to the official statement, the CTD's operations were spread across several districts of Punjab, reflecting an intensified counter-terrorism drive against militant networks. During the raids, authorities recovered 3.02 kilograms of explosives, 14 detonators, 33 feet of safety fuse wire, and three improvised explosive devices (IEDs). These materials were allegedly meant for planned attacks that could have caused significant damage and loss of life.

In addition to the explosive materials, pamphlets of banned organisations, extremist publications, mobile

Pakistan's Counter Terrorism Department arrested 18 Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan militants in Punjab during intelligence-based operations last month.

phones, and cash were also seized from the arrested individuals. The CTD stated that the militants were in the advanced stages of planning coordinated attacks and that their apprehension has prevented potential large-scale violence in urban centers.

Officials confirmed that investigations are underway to identify the wider network and sources of funding behind the group's operations in Punjab. The arrests mark a significant breakthrough in Pakistan's ongoing counter-terrorism efforts, especially as authorities remain vigilant against renewed militant activity from TTP factions operating along the country's borders and within urban regions.

The CTD reiterated its commitment to maintaining security across Punjab and assured the public that proactive intelligence-sharing and rapid-response measures would continue to neutralize any emerging terror threats.



India slams UN report claiming threat to culture

UNITED NATIONS

India has criticised as inaccurate a UN report that made several far-fetched claims to assert traditional cultural expressions are under threat in the country, and pointed out that traditional arts, crafts and performances are thriving.

India possesses a rich and diverse cultural heritage of artistic, literary, musical, and craft traditions spanning millennia... they continue to flourish across the country, Lok Sabha member Indra Hang Subba said.

India's cultural economy, including traditional arts, crafts, and performances, continues to thrive with the robust popular and government support, the MP from the Sikkim Krantikari Morcha said.

We find no empirical data that substantiates the claim of declining demand for India's traditional cultural expressions, he said.

Recognising the immense value of this heritage, India has established comprehensive legal and institutional frameworks to protect and promote traditional knowledge and cultural expressions and the geographical indications of goods, he said.

Subba was responding to claims by Alexandra Xanthaki, the UN's Special Rapporteur for Cultural Rights, in her report that was being discussed at the General Assembly's Third Committee, which deals with cultural issues.

Canadian PM Mark Carney apologised to U.S. President Donald Trump over an anti-tariff Reagan ad straining trade relations

Canada's Carney apologises to Trump over anti-tariff Reagan ad

GYEONGJU

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney said on Saturday that he personally apologised to U.S. President Donald Trump over an anti-tariff advertisement and had asked Ontario Premier Doug Ford not to air it. Speaking to reporters after an Asia-Pacific summit in South Korea, Carney confirmed that he offered the apology privately during a dinner hosted by South Korea's president earlier in the week.

"I did apologise to the president," Carney said, affirming Trump's earlier statement. He added that while he had reviewed the advertisement before its release, he explicitly told Ford he did not want it broadcast.

The controversial ad, commissioned by Ford, featured former U.S. President Ronald Reagan warning that tariffs lead to trade wars and



economic disaster. Following the ad's release, Trump announced higher tariffs on Canadian goods and suspended bilateral trade talks.

Trump later described his interaction with Carney as a "very nice" conversation but maintained that negotiations between Washington and Ottawa would not resume.

Carney also said his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping marked a turning

point in Canada-China relations, which had been strained since 2017. Issues discussed included foreign interference, which Canadian authorities previously accused Beijing of conducting in federal elections.

He added that his trip to Asia aimed to strengthen Canada's economic partnerships beyond its reliance on the United States amid ongoing trade tensions.

'India ready to boost co-op, ensure regional peace'

KUALA LUMPUR

Expressing New Delhi's commitment to deepen cooperation across all areas of mutual interest, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said that ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM-Plus) remains an integral part of India's 'Act East Policy' and broader Indo-Pacific vision.

Addressing the ADMM-Plus meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Singh said, ADMM-Plus is entering its 16th year, and at this time, India is ready to enhance cooperation in all areas of mutual interests, promote dialogue, and



ensure peace and stability through robust regional mechanisms.

The Defence Minister highlighted that India has been an active and constructive participant in ADMM-Plus from the very beginning, having co-chaired three Expert Working Groups—Humanitarian Mine Action, with Vietnam from 2014 to 2017, Military Medicine, with Myanmar from 2017 to 2020, Humanitarian

Assistance and Disaster Relief, with Indonesia from 2020 to 2024, while currently co-chairing—Counter-Terrorism, with Malaysia from 2024 to 2027.

Through these roles, India has promoted capacity-building, joint training, and knowledge-sharing. This reflects our belief that security cooperation should be comprehensive and people-centric, he added.

Singh asserted that India views its defence cooperation with ASEAN and Plus countries as a contribution to regional peace, stability, and capacity-building.

COURT HALTS AID BLOCKADE

Judge blocks Trump admn's move to suspend food aid during govt shutdown

FLORIDA

A federal judge in Rhode Island blocked President Donald Trump's administration from suspending all food aid for millions of Americans, ordering the government to use contingency funds to continue payments during the ongoing government shutdown.

U.S. District Judge John McConnell in Providence issued a temporary restraining order following an emergency petition filed by several cities, nonprofit organizations, and a public sector union. The plaintiffs argued that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's decision to halt Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits—commonly known as food stamps—



starting Saturday was unlawful and would cause irreparable harm to vulnerable families.

In his ruling, Judge McConnell emphasized that the government's plan violated federal administrative procedures and ignored the humanitarian consequences of cutting

off essential nutrition support during a period of national crisis. He directed the USDA to immediately access available contingency funds to maintain SNAP distributions until further court review.

The decision brought temporary relief to millions of

low-income Americans who rely on the program to meet daily food needs. SNAP is one of the largest federal assistance programs, serving more than 40 million people across the country, including children, seniors, and the disabled.

The ongoing government shutdown, triggered by a budget impasse between Congress and the White House, had raised fears that key welfare programs could face suspension. Advocacy groups praised the court's intervention, calling it a crucial safeguard against administrative overreach. The case is expected to return to court later this month for a full hearing on the legality of the USDA's actions.

Robust trade is vital, Apec says in joint pledge

GYEONGJU

Asia-Pacific leaders on Saturday agreed that trade and investment should advance in a way that brings benefits to all, a joint declaration showed Saturday, following their regional forum meetings.

The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) adopted the Gyeongju Declaration as they concluded the two-day gathering that brought together the 21 APEC members accounting for more than half of the world economy. "We acknowledge the importance of a trade and investment environment that promotes resilience and benefits for all," it said. The 21 APEC economies include US, China, Japan, Russia, Canada, and others in Southeast Asia and the Pacific, and Peru and Chile.

SU DO KU

Brain-Bender: Can You Solve It?

1	7	5	8		3			6
			4	1			8	5
3	8	2	5				7	9
4	1	9				2	3	7
	2			9		1	6	8
8	3		7	2	4		9	1
		8			7		6	
7	5				6	9		8
		1	3	5		9	7	4

4	3	2	5	1	7	8	9	6
1	7	6	8	9	3	4	2	5
8	5	9	4	6	2	1	3	7
2	1	7	6	4	8	3	5	9
9	6	8	3	7	5	2	1	4
3	4	5	9	2	1	7	6	8
5	8	1	7	3	6	9	4	2
7	2	4	1	5	9	6	8	3
6	9	3	2	8	4	5	7	1

Fill a 9x9 grid with numbers so that each row, column and 3x3 section contain all of the digits between 1 and 9.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle

QUICK READ



TVS Motor Company sales jump 11% in Oct

New Delhi
TVS Motor Company saw its total sales rise by 11 percent in October 2025, reaching 5,43,557 units compared to 4,89,015 units last year. The company reported that two-wheeler sales specifically grew 10 per cent to 5,25,150 units, up from 4,78,159 units in October 2024. Domestic sales also showed steady growth, with 4,21,631 units sold, an 8 per cent increase from 3,90,489 units a year ago. TVS attributed the growth to strong demand across its product range and continued customer trust in its two-wheeler lineup.

Escorts Kubota tractor sales climb slightly

New delhi
Escorts Kubota Ltd reported a 3.8 percent rise in total tractor sales in October 2025, reaching 18,798 units, up from 18,110 units in the same month last year. Domestic sales also grew steadily, with 18,423 units sold compared to 17,839 units in October 2024, marking a 3.3 percent increase. The company said the growth reflects strong demand in the farm and construction equipment sectors and ongoing customer confidence in its tractors. Despite the modest rise, Escorts Kubota continues to maintain a solid position in the market.

Skoda Auto India registers highest monthly sales

New delhi
Skoda Auto India reported its highest-ever monthly sales in October 2025, selling 8,252 units. The rise is led by strong demand for the sub-4 metre SUV, Kyalac, along with steady sales of the Kodiaq luxury 4x4 and ongoing contributions from the Kushaq and Slavia sedan. Between January and October, the company sold 61,607 units, surpassing its previous annual record of 53,721 cars in 2022. Skoda Auto India attributed the growth to the popularity of its SUV lineup and consistent customer trust in its products, marking a significant milestone for the company.

Fintech firm 'Pine Labs' sets IPO launch date in Nov

New delhi
Fintech company Pine Labs is set to launch its initial public offering (IPO) on November 7, aiming to raise Rs 2,080 crore through a fresh share issue. The IPO will close on November 11, while bidding for anchor investors begins a day earlier on November 6, the company said in its red herring prospectus. Alongside the fresh issue, Pine Labs plans an Offer for Sale (OFS) of up to 8.23 crore equity shares. The move marks a major step for the company as it opens itself to public investment and expands its presence in the financial technology market.

UPI smashes records: Transactions hit record Rs 27.28 trillion in Oct

UPI developed by the NPCI records a whopping 20.70 billion transactions in Oct, higher from 19.63 billion in Sept and 20.01 billion recorded in Aug

NEW DELHI

India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) achieved a new milestone in October, crossing 20.70 billion transactions worth Rs 27.28 lakh crore, according to data released by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). The growth comes amid the roll-out of GST 2.0 reforms that have further encouraged digital payments across the country.

The data showed a 25 per cent rise in transaction volume and a 16 per cent in-



crease in transaction value compared to the same month last year. On a monthly basis, UPI transactions also grew from Rs 24.90 lakh crore in September. The average daily transaction value stood at Rs

87,993 crore in October, up from Rs 82,991 crore in the previous month.

Daily transaction counts rose to 668 million, compared with 654 million in September. Instant Money Transfer Service (IMPS) also showed steady growth, with total monthly transactions worth Rs 6.42 lakh crore, reflecting a 2 per cent annual and 6 per cent monthly rise.

UPI continues to dominate India's digital payment ecosystem, handling 106.36 billion transactions in the first half of 2025 — a 35 per cent

year-on-year surge. The total value of these transactions reached Rs 143.34 lakh crore, highlighting the deepening integration of digital finance into daily life.

Person-to-merchant (P2M) payments jumped 37 per cent to 67.01 billion in the same period, driven by small retailers and local shops — known as the "Kirana Effect." Meanwhile, India's QR-code network expanded rapidly, more than doubling to 678 million by June 2025, underscoring the country's digital revolution.

Lee states S. Korea leads AI transformation, investing in data centers, easing regulations, and calls for united APEC demographic efforts

Lee calls APEC nations to embrace AI transformation

SEOUL

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung has called on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) member economies to view the rapid changes brought by artificial intelligence (AI) as opportunities for inclusive global growth rather than as challenges.

Speaking at the APEC summit's Retreat Session in the southeastern city of Gyeongju, President Lee introduced South Korea's initiative titled "AI-Based Society for All," which promotes equal access to the benefits of AI and technological progress. "We should turn the great transformation brought by AI into an opportunity," he said, reaffirming his vision of a global AI society focused on fairness and innovation.

Lee explained that South Korea is leading an "AI trans-



formation" at the national level, investing in large-scale data centers, and easing regulations to encourage innovation by global companies. He also called for united APEC efforts to tackle demographic challenges such as low birth rates and aging populations.

"Demographic changes pose serious challenges that affect every part of society—from growth and labor to education and welfare—and cannot be solved through isolated measures," Lee said. He urged APEC members to form

a joint framework to address these issues collectively.

Highlighting new areas for cooperation, Lee said South Korea is focusing on cultural and creative industries as future growth drivers in the AI era.

During the session, APEC leaders were expected to adopt the "Gyeongju Declaration," summarizing discussions on AI and demographic changes. Lee will hand over the APEC chairmanship to Chinese President Xi Jinping, whose nation will host next year's summit.

Adani Defence's Kanpur ammunition complex wins SIDM Champion Award

AHMEDABAD

Adani Defence & Aerospace's Kanpur Ammunition Complex was honoured with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) Champion Award 2025 on Saturday.

The award recognised the plant for strong design, precise manufacturing and rigorous testing of ammunition.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh presented the award at a ceremony attended by senior officials from the defence ministry and the company. Leaders praised the complex's modern technology and its contribution to India's aim of making more defence equipment at home.

Spread across 500 acres, the Kanpur facility uses automation and smart systems under



Industry 4.0 to make small, medium and large calibre ammunition. Company executives said these systems improve safety, quality and production speed. The plant is now seen as a key part of India's effort to build a reliable local supply for defence needs.

Ashish Rajvanshi, CEO of Adani Defence & Aerospace, said the award shows the company's focus on home-grown technology and helping the country become self-reli-

ant in defence. He added the complex will keep growing to meet India's security needs.

The company said it plans large investments in coming years and will expand into making bigger calibre rounds and other defence gear. It also mentioned future work on missiles and high-tech equipment like drones and protective gear to support the Make in India aim.

Officials said the recognition boosts confidence in India's defence industry and could help the country export more products. The award signals growing trust in private firms that support national security and local manufacturing. The company pledged continued training, jobs and partnerships with local suppliers and communities.



US tariffs on imports of heavy trucks, buses rolled out

MUMBAI

The United States has begun imposing new tariffs on imported heavy vehicles, marking a major shift in trade policy. A 25 per cent duty on medium and heavy-duty trucks and a 10 per cent duty on buses came into effect on Saturday, following an investigation by President Donald Trump's administration into national security risks tied to these imports.

According to the White House, the affected products will not face any additional or overlapping tariffs already applied to steel, aluminium, copper, automobiles, auto parts, or lumber. The investigation was carried out under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which allows the government to impose tariffs to strengthen domestic industries and safeguard national interests.

The White House described the decision as "vital for America's military readiness, emergency response capabilities, and critical infrastructure." However, the American Trucking Associations, representing around 37,000 companies, had earlier urged the

The move follows a Section 232 investigation under the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, which allows tariffs on imports deemed a threat to national security.

administration to delay the move, warning that it could harm manufacturers, dealers, and carriers by reducing sales.

Under the new rules, trucks that qualify under the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) will only face the 25 per cent tariff on their non-US content. Eligible truck parts will temporarily enter the country tariff-free until the Commerce Department establishes a system to determine foreign content.

Data from the United Overseas Bank shows that over 70 per cent of heavy trucks imported to the US come from Mexico, while around 20 per cent come from Canada. Mexico's exports of heavy vehicles to the US fell nearly 26 per cent year-on-year from January to August, contributing to a 0.3 per cent decline in its economy as trade talks with Washington continue.

Gold slips amid US, China trade optimism



MUMBAI

Gold prices fell for the second week in a row as hopes of new US trade deals with India and China, and a strong US dollar, pushed bullion lower.

The India Bullion and Jewellers Association said the rate for 24-carat gold (10 grams) dropped by Rs 1,649 for the week and closed at Rs 1,20,770 on Saturday. On the day, the price eased by Rs 4. Traders pointed to weaker global bullion prices and the firm dollar as reasons for the move.

Sentiment changed after the US Federal Reserve cut its main interest rate by 25 basis points to a 3.75–4.0 percent range but signalled this might be the last cut for 2025. That message reduced hopes of more rate relief soon. Market tools now show about a 74.8 percent chance of another 25-point cut in December,

down from over 91 per cent a week earlier.

In global markets, US gold futures for December were trading steady near \$4,016.70 an ounce. Even so, gold is up roughly 50 percent this year, helped by heavy buying from central banks.

Separately, US President Donald Trump said he and Chinese leader Xi Jinping agreed to lower some tariffs, linked to Chinese steps against illegal fentanyl trade and more US farm exports. Analysts warned the deal's lasting power is still unclear.

Jateen Trivedi of LKP Securities said risk appetite supports bullion and placed near-term support around Rs 1,18,000 and resistance near Rs 1,24,000. Until trade talks and Fed signals become clearer, gold is likely to stay choppy. Investors will watch policy and trade updates closely.

CORPORATE SYNERGY

MoSPI-IICA partner for 'Viksit Bharat' framework

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has joined forces with the Indian Institute of Corporate Affairs (IICA) to design a comprehensive framework aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the government's Viksit Bharat mission.

The two institutions signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on Saturday to create an integrated system linking national, state, and corporate sustainability frameworks. The collaboration aims to align Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) proj-



ects of businesses with the SDG goals of states and Union Territories.

The IICA, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, will develop the Comprehensive SDG Alignment Framework by merging national, state, ESG, and CSR indicators. The project builds upon the

National Indicator Framework (NIF), which tracks India's SDG progress, serving as the foundation for this initiative.

The framework will connect state-level indicators with national goals while promoting responsible business practices and evidence-based policymaking. Through the

NIF—State Indicator Framework (SIF) alignment, the project will strengthen inclusive monitoring and advance India's sustainable development goals.

The partnership is being guided by Gyaneshwar Kumar Singh, Director General and CEO of IICA, who has led key initiatives in ESG, CSR, and responsible business conduct.

Senior officials including Kishor Baburao Surwade, Dr Garima Dadhich, Ruchika Gupta, Shrivath Singh Jadawat, and Dr Ziaul Haque attended the signing ceremony. Officials said this collaboration marks a key step toward achieving a sustainable and developed India through coordinated action.

KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA

WHEN SPIRIT OF UNITY SEES NO BOUNDS



"Ours is a friendship that holds a lifeline — a bond of hearts. Ours is the generosity that believes all are one." This line in Kannada film song 'Naanu nanna Hendati' lyrics and music by Hamsalekha that depicts Kannadigas perfectly.

—Vidya, Mysuru, Teacher

Kannada Rajyotsava is truly a time for celebrating the spirit of 'Vocal for Local'. The unity in diversity found in India is truly unique and occasions such as today help a rapidly changing demography, keep tab of the roots we stem from. Jai Bharath, Jai Karnataka.

—Vidyadhar, Bengaluru, Entrepreneur

Rajyotsava is not only about celebrations. It is my personal feeling that we can express our love and gratitude for our state and our language!

—Adithya, Bengaluru, BSc student

People twisted this as Kannada rajyotsava. Kannada was from centuries, how can we celebrate just Kannada Rajyotsava? Its Karnataka Rajyotsava, includes Tulu, Kodava and Konkani speaking areas. We, Karnatakians, feel proud about our state, language, culture, and rich heritage.

—Nagaraj Shetty, Raichur, Businessman



WORLD CITIES DAY – OCT 31

Cities where beauty, possibilities, and sensitivities blossom

World Cities Day is observed every year on October 31. Its purpose is to raise global awareness about the challenges and opportunities of urbanization, promote international cooperation in addressing urban issues, and encourage the creation of sustainable, human-centric, crime-free, and environmentally supportive cities.

When it started...

The day was celebrated for the first time in 2014. It aims to enhance understanding of urban trends, foster collaboration among nations, and contribute to global efforts toward building equitable, prosperous, resilient, and inclusive cities that offer better living conditions and quality of life to their communities.

Where it reached...

This year, the global observance of World Cities Day took place in Bogotá, Colombia, under the theme "People-Centered Smart Cities." The event highlighted how data-driven decision-making, technology, and artificial intelligence (AI) can be used to improve urban living and help cities recover from current shocks and crises. It also emphasized initiatives that make smart cities more citizen-focused and participatory. Indeed, cities should become spaces where beauty and sensibilities unfold in countless forms — where the old and the new coexist in harmony, creating an atmosphere that is both inspiring and humane.

The theme for this year reflected the growing realization that digital technologies are transforming urban life worldwide. They are reshaping the way

cities are designed, planned, managed, and governed — offering vast opportunities to make them more efficient, inclusive, and responsive. The focus on building "people-oriented smart cities" underlines the importance of adopting digital and data-based solutions to improve services, address urban challenges, and enhance quality of life. The underlying message — "Empowered Communities, Prosperous Cities" — emphasizes that true urban prosperity arises when communities are aware, cooperative, and self-reliant. At a time when the entire world is moving rapidly toward urbanization, this day has become an occasion for self-reflection: Are our cities merely expanding as jungles of concrete and glitter, or are they nurturing

human sensitivity, culture, environmental balance, and social harmony?

PM Modi's view of urbanization

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has presented a new model of urbanization — one that links urban growth not only with physical infrastructure but also with human values and citizen participation. Schemes like the AMRUT Mission, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Smart Cities Mission, and Clean India Mission have infused new vitality into the country's urban landscape. These programs have demonstrated that when transparency and public participation become integral to governance, development manifests not only in statistics but in people's lives.



Today's cities shine brightly on the outside but often feel empty within — full of facilities yet devoid of peace; full of speed yet lacking stillness of the soul. It is time to pause and ask: Are we creating cities where humanity still has a place? Where history and sensitivity can breathe together? True development will be that which allows cities to expand while keeping the roots of humanity deep and strong. The message of World Cities Day is precisely this — a city is not just a network of walls and roads; it is a living culture. A city becomes truly beautiful not because of its buildings but because of the thoughts, behaviors, and sensitivities of the people who live there. When communities are empowered, cities become prosperous — and when cities prosper, humanity truly progresses.

Role of urbanization beyond infra development

Urbanization is not merely about tall buildings, wide roads, or shining marketplaces — it is a living social process that embodies the quality of life, thought, and behavior. Cities have given humankind opportunities for employment, education, healthcare, and comfort; yet they have also brought pollution, crowding, stress, crime, inequality, and emotional isolation. Every major city today is gasping for fresh air, clean water, and a peaceful life.

Ancient Indian cities such as Kashi, Ujjain, Pushkar, Mathura, and Ayodhya were not merely centers of trade or politics — they were living laboratories of culture, spirituality, and coexistence. For them, a city was not just a place to live, but a way of living itself. If modern cities could once again embrace these timeless values, they would become not only modern but also humane.

What lacks in Western form of urbanization?

In the West, urbanization has reached remarkable heights in

terms of technology and convenience, but there is often a lack of human warmth and emotional connection. If India succeeds in blending humanity, environment, and culture within its urban growth, it can offer a model to the world. Cities will truly become alive only when their inhabitants are environmentally conscious, socially responsible, and emotionally committed. Preventing pollution, increasing greenery, making cleanliness a way of life, providing dignified housing for the poor, and fostering public participation — these are the true pathways to genuine urban development.

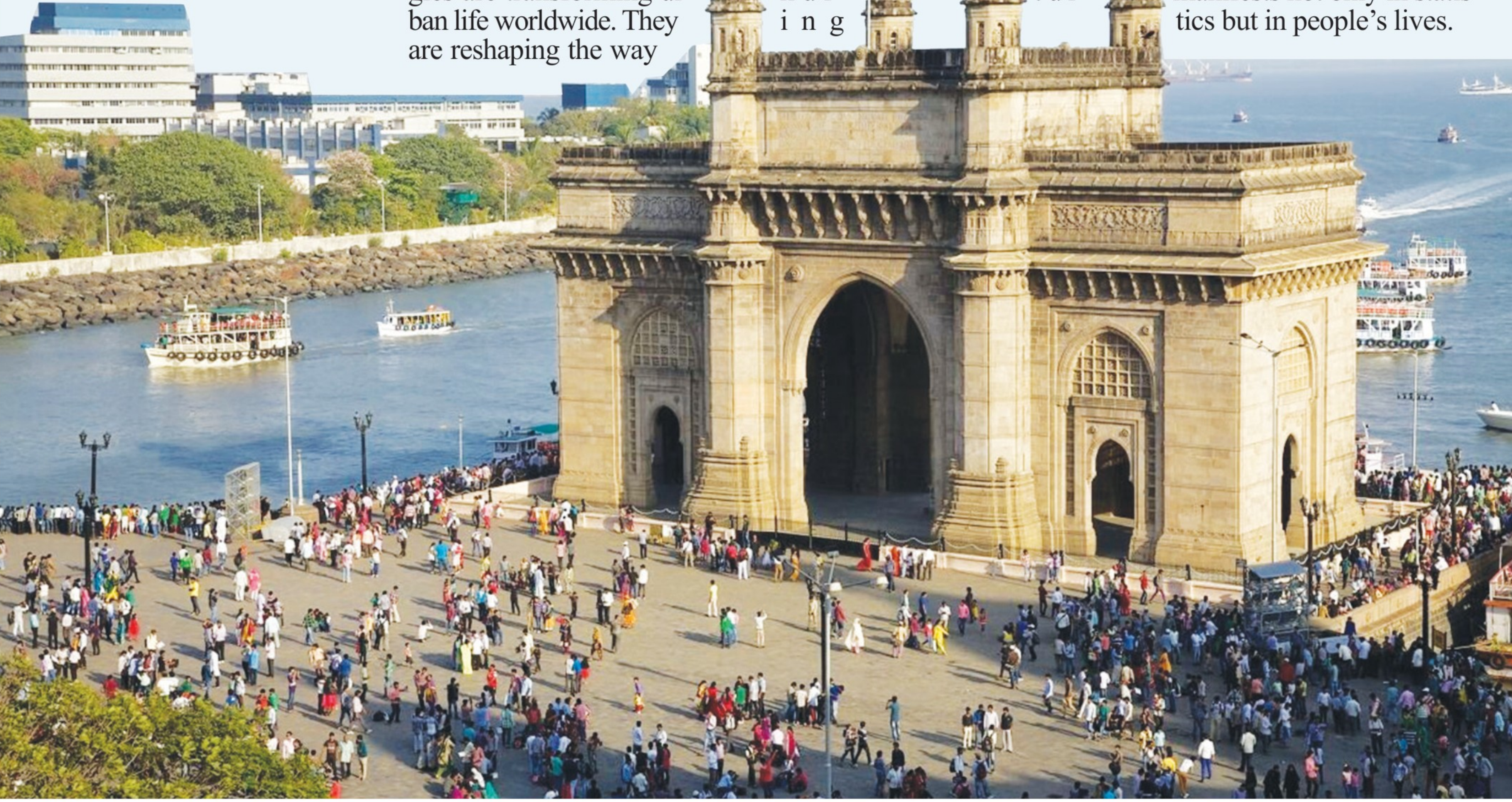
When transformation eats off soul of cities

Indian cities today are transforming rapidly. Metros, skyscrapers, wide roads, and glittering malls have reshaped their faces. This change dazzles with the light of progress, yet beneath it lies a silent pain — the loss of the city's soul, its warmth, and its identity. The lanes that once smelled of

friendship and belonging now echo with rush, indifference, and loneliness. Since independence, India has moved swiftly toward modernity, but in this race of material growth, human emotions and social bonds have been left behind. Cities are expanding not according to people's needs but the demands of the market. New colonies and high-rises are replacing old neighborhoods, yet they lack the intimacy and sensitivity that once connected human hearts.

Centers of consumerism

Cities today are no longer mere habitats; they have become centers of consumerism and competition. Modernity has brought convenience but has faded the colors of culture, history, and tradition. This deepens the question: Does development only mean tall buildings, broad roads, and malls — or should it also include the warmth of relationships, the pulse of culture, and the living memory of his





‘A GOODBYE, BUT NOT THE END’ Tennis ace Rohan Bopanna announces retirement

NEW DELHI

India’s tennis star Rohan Bopanna has announced his retirement from professional tennis, ending a remarkable 20-year career that brought pride to the nation.

The 45-year-old made the announcement on Saturday, shortly after playing his final match at the Paris Masters 1000 alongside partner Alexander Bublik. They lost in the Round of 32 to John Peers and James Tracy.

He shared memories of his journey from Coorg, a small town in India, to the world’s biggest tennis arenas.

Bopanna wrote, “After 20 unforgettable years on tour, it’s time I officially hang up my racquet.”

Known for his powerful serve and skillful net play, Bopanna has been one of India’s most respected tennis players, representing the country in the Davis Cup and at the Olympics.

Bopanna’s career highlights include winning the 2017 French Open mixed doubles with Gabriela Dabrowski and the 2024 Australian Open men’s doubles, reaching World No. 1 at age 43.

These achievements reflected his determination, hard work, and enduring love for the sport.

He shared memories of his journey from Coorg, a small town in India, to the world’s biggest tennis arenas, crediting his family for their unwavering support.

“To my parents, my sister, my wife Supriya, and daughter Tridha – your love and strength carried me through every challenge,” he wrote.

He also thanked his coaches, partners, and fans for shaping his career.

One of India’s finest tennis ambassadors, Bopanna built his reputation on a powerful serve, sharp net play, and incredible longevity, his retirement brings an end an extraordinary career spanning over two decades

CAREER GRAPH

- He has won 26 ATP men’s doubles titles in his career.
- His highest men’s doubles ranking is World No. 1, achieved on 29 January 2024.
- Singles career: approx 20 wins – 30 losses (≈ 40 % win rate).
- Doubles career (overall): around 717 wins – 573 losses, which is about a 55.6 % win rate.
- Doubles in Grand Slams (Men’s + Mixed): 27 wins – 40 losses (≈ 0.41 win rate) for finals appearances in those categories.
- Bopanna reached five Grand Slam finals—men’s doubles at 2023 US Open and four mixed doubles—showcasing top-level consistency.

NASCAR dismisses fan concerns over Hamlin penalties

AVONDALE

NASCAR officials have dismissed suggestions that fans might doubt the fairness of any penalty given to Denny Hamlin during Sunday’s title-deciding race at Phoenix Raceway.

Hamlin, driving for Joe Gibbs Racing, is one of the four finalists in the championship race. However, his dual role as co-owner of 23XI Racing—currently locked in an antitrust lawsuit against NASCAR—has sparked speculation among fans about possible bias. Despite the controversy, Hamlin has insisted that NASCAR’s officials have treated both him and 23XI Racing teams fairly. The veteran driver has faced penalties before, including five pit-road speeding violations across 37 races this season.

Punjab FC sign Nigerian striker Nsungusi Effiong



BAMBOLIM

Punjab FC have strengthened their attack with the signing of Nigerian centre-forward Nsungusi Jnr Effiong on a one-year contract, joining the squad directly in Goa ahead of the AIFF Super Cup 2025. Effiong, 25, previously played for Romanian side FC UTA Arad and brings valuable European and Central Asian experience to the team.

The 6’4” striker started his career with International Allies in Ghana before moving to Europe, spending three seasons with Danish club HB Koge, where he made 58 appearances and scored 11 goals. He later gained experience in Central Asia, featuring for FC Atyrau in Kazakhstan (7 goals in 25 matches) and Neftchi Fergana in Uz-

bekistan (7 goals in 24 matches). Effiong expressed excitement about joining Punjab FC, stating, “I’ve come here to bring a new level of attacking threat... Get ready for goals as I’m here to make a real impact on this team’s fortunes.”

Punjab FC Technical Director Nikolaos Topoliatis praised the signing: “Effiong is a proven goal scorer with extensive experience.

He adds genuine quality to our frontline and will immediately raise our performance level.”

The signing signals Punjab FC’s intent to make a strong run in the AIFF Super Cup 2025, with fans eager to see how quickly Effiong integrates and delivers on his promise of energy, commitment, and goals.

Arsenal deny Palace’s request to reschedule match

LONDON

Arsenal have turned down Crystal Palace’s request to reschedule their League Cup quarter-final to December 23, with manager Mikel Arteta saying it would be unfair for both sides to play two games within 48 hours. The match will now be held on December 16, a date that adds to Palace’s busy run of four games in eight days.

Palace had suggested December 23 as a fairer alternative, arguing that Arsenal play Wolves on December 13 and should also get proper rest. They were even open to hosting the match on Christmas Eve, but police and transport officials objected due to limited public transport. Arsenal, the home team, also opposed playing on December 24.

Arteta said the December 23 proposal was impractical, as it would come just two days before Arsenal’s trip to Everton and overlap with Palace’s clash against Leeds United. “It’s not fair for either side. We already knew the competitions at the start of the season,” Arteta stated, adding that fixture congestion must be handled with fairness and player welfare in mind. The Arsenal boss also warned that without balanced scheduling, clubs might one day reconsider their participation in certain competitions. “If fairness and player welfare guide decisions, we’ll avoid that situation,” he said. The League Cup quarter-final remains set for December 16, as both clubs prepare for a demanding winter fixture schedule.



Paris Masters: Sinner beats Shelton to reach semi-finals

PARIS

Italy’s Jannik Sinner stormed into the semi-finals of the Paris Masters after a strong straight-sets win over American Ben Shelton, moving closer to reclaiming the world No. 1 ranking. Sinner defeated Shelton 6-3, 6-3 in just 70 minutes, marking his seventh consecutive victory against the young American.

With Carlos Alcaraz’s shock early exit to Cameron Norrie, the door is open for Sinner to overtake him in the ATP rankings if he wins the Paris title. The 24-year-old will next face third seed Alexander Zverev, who saved two match points to beat Daniil Medvedev 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5) in a thrilling quarter-final.

Sinner said after the match that he felt confident and composed despite Shelton’s powerful serve. “It was a

tough match, but I returned very well and played solid from the baseline,” he stated. He added that he isn’t focused on rankings right now, calling them “a result of how I’m playing.”

The Italian, who has already won the Australian Open and Wimbledon

this year, said reaching the Paris semis “means a lot” after a long and successful season.

Meanwhile, Kazakhstan’s Alexander Bublik reached his first Masters semi-final after a hard-fought 6-7 (5-7), 6-4, 7-5 win over Alex de Minaur. He will face Canada’s Felix Auger-Aliassime, who eased past Valentin Vacherot 6-2, 6-2.



Gukesh returns to top 10 in FIDE rankings

NEW DELHI

Indian chess prodigy D Gukesh has reclaimed his spot among the world’s elite, returning to the top ten of the latest FIDE world rankings released on Saturday. Gukesh, who slipped to 11th position last month, now holds the ninth spot with a rating of 2763.

The 19-year-old will also enter the upcoming Chess World Cup 2025 as the top seed, showcasing his rise as India’s leading player. Meanwhile, Arjun Erigaisi and R Praggnanandhaa dropped two

positions each, ranking sixth and seventh respectively.

Germany’s Vincent Keymar made a big leap, climbing five spots to fourth with a 2773 rating, while Dutch grandmaster Anish Giri rose to fifth with 2769. Alireza Firouzja slipped to tenth, and Wesley So maintained eighth position.

In the women’s section, China’s Hou Yifan continues to dominate, followed by Zhu Jiner and Lei Tingjie. From India, Koneru Humpy ranks sixth, and Divya Deshmukh holds 11th place. At the Chess

World Cup opening ceremony held in Goa, Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya unveiled the new Viswanathan Anand Trophy. He praised India’s rapid chess progress, noting the nation’s rise from fewer than 10 Grandmasters two decades ago to 90 today.

“India now holds Olympiad titles in both open and women’s categories, and the Women’s World Cup title through Divya Deshmukh,” Mandaviya said. “Hosting this World Cup will inspire even more champions in the years ahead.” Gukesh’s return to the top ten comes at a defining moment as he leads India’s young generation of global chess stars.



IYER STABLE AFTER SYDNEY SCARE

NEW DELHI

Indian cricketer Shreyas Iyer has been discharged from a Sydney hospital after suffering a serious abdominal injury during the third ODI against Australia on October 25. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) confirmed that Iyer is now stable and will remain in Sydney for further recovery.

Iyer sustained a blunt injury to his abdomen while fielding, which led to a laceration of his spleen and internal



bleeding. Quick medical attention and a minor surgical procedure helped stop the bleeding. “He is now stable and recovering well,” the BCCI said in a statement, adding that medical teams in

both Sydney and India are satisfied with his progress.

The BCCI expressed gratitude to doctors treating Iyer, particularly Dr. Kouroush Haghighi and his Sydney team, as well as Dr. Dinshaw Pard-

iwala in India. The board confirmed that Iyer will stay in Sydney for follow-up consultations before returning home once he is fit to travel.

In a message shared on social media, Iyer thanked fans for their support during his recovery. “I’m getting better every passing day and deeply grateful for all the kind wishes,” he wrote.

The 30-year-old batter’s absence is a setback for India, but the team management and medical staff are optimistic about his full recovery.

INGLEWOOD

Leonard’s buzzer-beater lifts Clippers past Pelicans



Kawhi Leonard delivered a thrilling finish as the Los Angeles Clippers edged the New Orleans Pelicans 126-124. Leonard scored 34 points and nailed a buzzer-beating jumper to give the Clippers victory in their opening NBA Cup group-stage game. With less than 10 seconds left, Zion Williamson tied the game at 124 with two clutch

free throws. On the final play, Leonard faked out Jeremiah Fears before sinking a long two-pointer as the horn sounded, sending the home crowd into celebration. James Harden also shined, contributing 24 points and 14 assists, while Derrick Jones Jr. added 16 points. Ivica Zubac posted a double-double with 14 points and 11 rebounds.

GENOA

Patrick Vieira departs Genoa with Club bottom of Series A



Patrick Vieira’s tenure as Genoa head coach came to an end on Saturday after the club found itself in last place in Serie A, failing to secure a win in nine matches this season. Genoa confirmed that Vieira “is no longer the coach of the first team,” while reports from Gazzetta dello Sport indicate that he resigned. The club

has appointed Roberto Murgita and Domenico Criscito as joint interim managers for Monday’s match at Sassuolo. Vieira, a World Cup winner with France, was hired a year ago to replace Alberto Gilardino, guiding Genoa to a 13th-place finish last season and earning a two-year contract extension.

PANAJI

Goa prepares for global IRONMAN 70.3 race on November 9



Goa is set to host the next IRONMAN 70.3 on November 9, attracting triathletes from around the world. Participants from 62 countries have competed in past editions, with this year seeing athletes like Atul Dutt from Hong Kong and Jongjin Lim from South Korea. Atul, an Indian-origin athlete, called the race

special as it allows him to compete in his home country. Lim, recovering from injury, described it as a celebration of endurance and life. Organizers said the coastal routes, scenic views, and family-friendly atmosphere make Goa a unique triathlon destination, blending sport, culture, and leisure.



Allu Arjun joyfully welcomes NAYANIKA INTO FAMILY

Tollywood star Allu Arjun has happily welcomed Nayanika, his new sister-in-law, into the Allu family after her engagement with his younger brother Allu Sirish.

Sharing his joy on social media, the Pushpa actor posted lovely photos from the engagement ceremony, writing, “Grand celebrations at home begin! A new addition to the family! We’ve been waiting for this joyful moment for a while.” Allu Arjun also congratulated his brother, saying, “Con-

gratulations to my sweetest brother @AlluSirish, and a warm welcome to the family, #Nayanika! Wishing you both a beautiful new beginning filled with love and happiness.”

The engagement, held on Friday, was an intimate yet grand family affair attended by the Allu and Konidela families. Among those present were Megastar Chiranjeevi, Ram Charan with Upasana, and Varun Tej with Lavanya. Allu Sirish, dressed in a stylish Manish Malhotra out-

fit, looked dashing next to Nayanika, who shone in an elegant Sabyasachi lehenga.

Sirish shared his excitement online, posting dreamy engagement photos and writing, “I am finally and happily engaged to the love of my life, Nayanika.” The post quickly went viral, receiving warm wishes from fans everywhere.

Earlier, on October 1, Sirish had hinted at his engagement by posting a romantic photo from Paris on his grandfather Allu Ramalingaiah’s birth anniversary.



SUDHEER BABU finds ‘divine connection’ in SHIV STOTRAM

Actor Sudheer Babu has described filming the “Shiv Stotram” sequence from his upcoming fantasy drama Jatadhara as a “truly divine experience.” The film, also starring Sonakshi Sinha, recently released the spiritual track, composed and sung by Rajeev Raj.

Sharing his thoughts, Sudheer said, “Every moment on set felt like being in the presence of Lord Shiva himself. When I first heard the track, it felt more than just a song—it was a spiritual awakening. I’m honoured to be part of something that connects so deeply with faith and devotion.”

Producer Perna Arora expressed that “Shiv Stotram is

the soul of Jatadhara.” She explained, “From the very beginning, I wanted a song that went beyond music—a piece that awakens emotion and reverence. We poured our hearts into it, hoping the audience feels that sacred energy. It’s our humble offering to Lord Shiva and the spirit of faith.”

Directed by Venkat Kalyan and Abhishek Jaiswal, Jatadhara is presented by Zee Studios and Perna Arora. The film features an ensemble cast including Divya Khosla, Shilpa Shirodkar, Indira Krishna, Ravi Prakash, and Rajeev Kanakala among others.

With its mystical theme and soulful music, Jatadhara promises to take audiences on a powerful spiritual journey rooted in devotion and cinematic grandeur.



Jr NTR’s ‘Dragon’ shooting resumes this November

The much-awaited film Dragon, starring Jr NTR and directed by Prashanth Neel, is set to resume shooting in the third week of November. After a short break, reports confirm that previous differences between the actor and director have been resolved, putting the high-profile project back on track. The upcoming schedule will take the cast and crew to Northern Europe, where Jr NTR is expected to perform high-octane action sequences. Fans are eager to see the actor in his intense and larger-than-life avatar, as the film promises to raise the bar for action dramas in Indian cinema.

Produced by Mythri Movie Makers, Dragon is billed as a pan-India action extravaganza with stunning visuals and gripping storytelling. Rukmini Vasanth plays the female lead, adding glamour and depth to the narrative. The collaboration between Jr NTR and Prashanth Neel has generated massive anticipation, as the duo is known for delivering blockbuster action-packed films with strong emotional cores. With the shooting resuming soon, fans can expect exciting updates and glimpses of the film from Northern Europe in the coming weeks.

Dragon aims to be one of the biggest releases of the year, blending star power, high-stakes action, and grand-scale production to create a cinematic spectacle for audiences across India.

HUMA QURESHI calls Rani Bharti her life’s best role

Actress Huma Qureshi says her role as Rani Bharti in the hit political drama Maharani has been the most defining experience of her career. As she gears up for the show’s fourth season, the actress reflected on how portraying strong, complex women has shaped her understanding of ambition and resilience.

“Rani Bharti has been the best role of my life. It’s very close to my heart, and I think I’ll always be remembered for it — and I’m not complaining,” Huma shared. “I was blessed with an amazing cast and crew who made sure my journey was memorable and fulfilling.”

The new season of Maharani introduces Rajeshwari Sachdev and Darshel Safary, joining a cast that includes Shweta Basu Prasad, Vipin Sharma, Amit Sial, Vineet Kumar, and others. Directed by Puneet Prakash and produced by Kangra Talkies Pvt. Ltd., the series is created by Subhash Kapoor.

Since its debut, Maharani has followed Rani Bharti’s transformation from a simple homemaker to a shrewd political leader navigating Bihar’s intense power struggles. Each season has drawn inspiration from real-life political events in the state’s history.



Roshan Meka shines in power-packed ‘Champion’ teaser

Actor Roshan Meka, son of veteran actor Srikanth, is gearing up for his biggest role yet in the upcoming sports-action drama “Champion.” The film is produced by Swapna Cinema, a banner celebrated for backing quality storytelling, and directed by National Award winner Pradeep Advaitam.

The newly released teaser has already impressed viewers with its grand visuals and high-end production quality. Roshan, who first won hearts as a charming lover boy in Pelli SandaD, now steps into a more intense avatar, blending athletic grit with action-packed mo-



ments. In Champion, Roshan plays Michael Williams, a talented footballer who finds himself caught in high-stakes challenges both on and off the field. The teaser teases thrilling war sequences and emotionally charged gameplay, hinting at a story that goes far beyond sports.

Malayalam actress Anaswara Rajan makes her Tollywood debut as the female lead, adding freshness to the ensemble.

NICOLE KIDMAN brings back ‘Practical Magic’ spirit

Actress Nicole Kidman gave her fans a special Halloween treat this year by adding “just a little bit” of Practical Magic to the spooky celebrations. The Oscar-winning star shared a set of mystical, nature-inspired tarot cards on Instagram, charming followers with a hint of nostalgia — and perhaps a teaser for the beloved film’s upcoming sequel.

“Just a little #PracticalMagic for your Halloween,” Kidman captioned the post. The photos featured beautifully illustrated cards showing an oak tree, acorn, salt bowl, flowers, and the sun — all arranged among lavender and daisies. The final slide showed the cards beside a candlelit table, a sketchpad, and pressed flowers, creating an enchanting scene.

Originally released in 1998, Practical Magic was based on Alice Hoffman’s novel and directed by Griffin Dunne. The fantasy romance starred Sandra Bullock and Nicole Kidman as witch sisters Sally and Gillian Owens, descendants of a magical family.

Kidman will reprise her role as Gillian in the long-awaited sequel, alongside returning stars Dianne Wiest and Stockard Channing as the wise and whimsical aunts. New cast members include Joey King, Lee Pace, Maisie Williams, Xolo Mariduena, and Solly McLeod.

Director Susanne Bier will helm the sequel, promising fans a fresh yet familiar dose of magic, love, and sisterhood — just in time for a new generation of enchantment.



Keanu Reeves teams up with Tim Miller for ‘Shiver’

Hollywood action icon Keanu Reeves is joining forces with Deadpool director Tim Miller for a thrilling new science-fiction movie titled “Shiver.” The project, reported by The Hollywood Reporter, promises a gripping blend of survival, time loops, and high-stakes action.

The film is being produced by Matthew Vaughn, known for the Kingsman franchise, under his Marv Films banner, along with Aaron Ryder, whose credits include Dumb Money and All of You. The script, penned by Ian Shorr, reportedly combines elements of Edge of Tomorrow and The Shallows.

While full plot details re-



main secret, Shiver follows a rogue smuggler trapped in a deadly double-cross during a job in the Caribbean Sea. Surrounded by corpses, mercenaries, and hungry sharks, he’s thrown into a terrifying time loop, desperately trying to escape the endless cycle of chaos.

Director Tim Miller, a former visual effects artist, made his name with the blockbuster Deadpool before helming Terminator: Dark Fate and the hit Netflix series Love, Death & Robots.

For Reeves, Shiver adds to his long list of ambitious projects, following roles in Ballerina and Good Fortune.



Tamannaah Bhatia says lies ruin any relationship

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia recently spoke candidly about one thing she cannot tolerate in relationships: lies. Known for her honesty and straightforwardness, the actress admitted that while she can forgive mistakes, dishonesty is something she finds impossible to handle.

“I’m not very good at handling people who lie,” Tamannaah said. “It really makes me angry when someone lies to my face and assumes I’m foolish enough to believe it.” Her comments have sparked speculation that trust issues may have played a role in her recent breakup with actor Vijay Varma, with whom she was in a relationship for two years.

Despite the personal turbulence, Tamannaah remains focused on her professional commitments. She continues to work on several film projects and has made appearances in special song sequences, keeping her fans engaged with her talent and charm.

The actress has always been admired for her candidness and dedication to her work, balancing personal challenges with a busy schedule in the film industry.

With honesty clearly a top priority in her personal life, Tamannaah’s remarks highlight the importance she places on trust and transparency in relationships.

Tamil fantasy romance ‘Kiss’ streaming from November

Kollywood actor Kavin, who impressed audiences with Dada and Star, is back with the fantasy romantic comedy Kiss, directed by Sathish Krishnan. Despite receiving positive reviews, the film struggled at the box office due to poor promotion.

Fans will now get a chance to watch Kiss on ZEE5, as the movie is set to stream in Tamil audio from November 7. The theatrical window for the film was seven weeks, and currently, there is no official update on dubbed versions.

In the movie, Kavin plays a musician with a supernatural gift—he can see the destiny of couples whenever they kiss. Preethi Asrani stars as the female lead, while the supporting cast includes RJ Vijay, VTV Ganesh, Prabhu, and Rao Ramesh, adding both charm and humor to the film.

Produced by Raahul of Romeo Pictures, the film’s mu-

